

Waite meets U.N. chief

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Anglican church envoy Terry Waite met on Tuesday with U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and later said he was going to Washington to meet with Vice-President George Bush. Mr. Waite said he briefed the secretary general on his efforts to negotiate the release of hostages in Beirut and the U.N. chief was "very supportive" of his efforts. In Washington, the vice-president's spokeswoman, Gayle Fisher, said Mr. Bush had invited Mr. Waite to the White House for a meeting to discuss the "issue that is a concern of the vice-president." She said she did not have any details about the session or how long it was to last. President Ronald Reagan left earlier in the day for a six-day Thanksgiving vacation at his ranch in California. Mr. Bush heads a presidential task force to find ways to counter terrorism.

Kuwait remains opposed to hostage-prisoner swap, page 2

Jordan Times

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جوردان تايمز يومية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الرأي"

Murphy due in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — U.S. Middle East envoy Richard Murphy was expected to arrive here late Tuesday night or early Wednesday to brief His Majesty King Hussein and senior officials on the Nov. 19-21 Geneva summit, informed sources said. Mr. Murphy was in Oman Tuesday briefing the Sultanate's leaders on the summit. The U.S. envoy flew to the Mideast immediately after the summit and briefed Israeli and Egyptian leaders on the outcome of the superpower talks. He flew to New Delhi from Cairo on Saturday and arrived in Pakistan on Monday. He is believed to have briefed Indian and Pakistani leaders on the Geneva talks. Mr. Murphy arrived in Muscat early Tuesday and was expected to fly to Amman late Tuesday.

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Dubai returns plane, hijackers to Iran

DUBAI (R) — An Iranian light plane diverted to Dubai returned to Iran on Tuesday with the hijackers aboard, security sources in the emirate said. Two Iranians among the four passengers, armed with a sub-machinegun, hijacked the Commander 500-S over the Gulf on Monday and forced the pilot to land in Dubai. The sources described the hijackers as "fugitives from the law" and said they agreed to return to Iran after being disarmed. They had not requested political asylum in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), the sources added.

Frankfurt police name bomb suspect

FRANKFURT (R) — West German police have named an Arab wanted in connection with Sunday's car bomb attack on a U.S. military shopping complex here when 35 people, mostly Americans, were injured. A police spokesman said Aziz Mohsein, aged around 40, bought a second-hand BMW car in nearby Gravenbruch the day before it was used in the attack. He presented a Moroccan passport when buying the vehicle but police have yet to trace him, he said. A photograph of the man has been issued.

Eitan named as recruiter of spy

TEL AVIV (AP) — Newspapers and Israel Radio reported Tuesday that a former adviser to then-Prime Minister Menachem Begin recruited a U.S. navy analyst now accused of spying for Israel. The radio and two Israeli newspapers, Haaretz and Yediot Ahronot, identified the Israeli contact as Rafael Eitan. The United States called on Israel on Tuesday to speedily complete its investigation into the alleged purchase by Israel of U.S. military secrets from Jonathan Pollard, arrested in Washington last week.

Atlantis expected to blast off on schedule

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (AP) — A forecast of clear skies promised a spectacular sight Tuesday night when space shuttle Atlantis with its 213-metre tail of fire was to dash into the darkness on a flight to test space station construction concepts. Atlantis and its crew of one woman and six men including a Mexican astronaut are to lift off at 7:29 p.m. (0029 GMT), and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration said if conditions were right, the blazing exhaust should have been visible from South Carolina to Cuba.

Abdul-Meguid in Brussels

BRUSSELS (AP) — Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid arrived here from Paris on Tuesday for three days of talks with Belgian and European Community leaders. On Wednesday, Mr. Abdul Meguid will go to Luxembourg to meet for four days with Luxembourg Foreign Minister Jacques Poos, the current chairman of the EC's Council of Ministers. The deciding body in the Common Market.

Hassan II rules out direct contacts with Israeli prime minister

Peres says he is willing for meeting

RABAT (Agencies) — King Hassan II of Morocco on Tuesday said he did not anticipate having any direct contacts with Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

On Monday, King Hassan had told reporters that Peres "sent word that he would like to see me. I replied that I would receive him with great pleasure, but told him 'you and I cannot be just tourists'."

Peres publicly responded later that day that he would be happy to meet with King Hassan.

But on Tuesday, the king told a group of French reporters at the royal palace that his comments should not have been interpreted as an invitation to face-to-face discussions, but rather a general offer intended only to demonstrate that the Arab side was open to discussions.

"If Mr. Peres has something concrete to propose, he can put it in an envelope addressed to the secretary general of the U.N.," King Hassan told the reporters.

King Hassan, who was to begin a three-day official visit to France on Wednesday, said any eventual talks with Labour Party leaders in the Israeli government would be predicated on the "liberation of the territories occupied by force."

and the "recognition of the Palestinian peoples' right to self-determination."

"If I am told that Mr. Peres agrees to talks (on that basis), I will be the first to advise him to try," King Hassan said.

King Hassan said that he "expected much from the Labour Party" in Israel, and added that he hoped that the Soviet Union would also be allowed to participate in the search for Middle East peace.

He noted that the coming to power of Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev "could make things evolve."

Earlier on Tuesday, Peres, welcoming King Hassan's offer of talks, declared "we will meet."

The Israeli premier, answering questions from high school students in the Tel Aviv suburb of Bat Yam, stressed the need for an open, public dialogue but did not say when or where such a meeting might take place.

"Once if there were meetings those meetings were secret. But if people want to talk about peace,

why should they conceal themselves," said Peres, who referred to reports that he met secretly with King Hassan in Morocco in 1978 and 1981.

"So I welcome King Hassan's public words. We will meet. I am ready for us to meet. He will say what he has to say and I will say what I have to say," Peres told the audience of 400 high school students, some of whom were of Moroccan origin.

The Israeli leader cautioned against expectations of early results from a dialogue with the Arabs.

"Neither of us guarantees that the result of the talks will solve all the problems, but I think there is great political, psychological and educational importance in beginning a real and public dialogue on the subject of peace."

Peres indicated the aim of talks with King Hassan was to pave the way for direct talks with Jordan under international sponsorship.

"If I meet with the Moroccan King, I will explain that there is no substitute for direct and serious negotiations without preconditions, in which each side also tries to consider the needs of the other side," Peres said in response to a question from the Associated Press.

(Continued on page 3)

Palestine Central Council urges PLO reunification conference

BAGHDAD (AP) — The Palestine Central Council (PCC) called on Tuesday for an expanded conference of Palestinian leaders to discuss means of reunifying commando factions and harmonise "the various Arab and foreign plans for a settlement" to the Middle East crisis.

The 75-member PCC, in a statement winding up its two-day deliberations here, stressed the "need for all the Palestinian revolutionary factions, the nationalist personalities and the Executive Committee to convene an urgent meeting in support of our people's unity."

The PCC asked the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to "conduct the contacts needed to determine the date and venue for such a meeting."

The statement said the proposed meeting would have an "open agenda. All topics and questions can be discussed."

A source quoted by the AP said the proposed meeting, in addition to reuniting the mainline Fatah faction and the PLO's eight groups, aims at "briefing all the Palestinians, groups and leaders, on the various Arab and foreign efforts for a settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict and discussing such offers."

The PCC called on the PLO's command to "escalate the armed struggle in the occupied territory, parallel to the political (peace) moves at all levels," stressing that the PLO abides by the Feb. 11 agreement with Jordan on a joint approach to peace in the Middle East.

It also affirmed the PLO's adherence to Mr. Arafat's Cairo Declaration and denounced terrorism. In Oman, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Near East and South Asia Richard Murphy, in an arrival statement, praised the Cairo Declaration as a "positive step" towards ending violence for paving the road for peace negotiations in the Middle East.

Calling for solidarity among the Arab powers, the PCC urged the creation of a united Arab front "capable of fighting as much as it is able to launch peace initiatives."

In another development, the Israeli newspaper Hadashot reported on Tuesday that the anti-Zionist Neturei Karta sect wants a seat in any Palestinian government in exile that may be formed.

The appeal for the government portfolio was made to the Baghdad meeting, the sect's self-termed "foreign minister" Rabbi Moshe Hirsch told the press.

"We will ask for the ministry for Jewish interests in the occupied territories," Hirsch was quoted as saying in the tabloid.

He also promised that if the PLO gives his group a government seat, this will signal "the beginning of the redemption of the Jewish people."

Neturei Karta is a Jewish sect that is avidly anti-Israel because it believes the Jewish state should not have been reestablished until the coming of the Messiah. Despite its anti-Zionism, several thousand sect members live in Israel.

The statement called on the Executive Committee and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat to seek an international conference on peace in the Middle East with the participation of the PLO along with the Soviet Union, the United States and other permanent members of the U.N. Security Council, in addition to all parties directly involved in the conflict.

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The labour leader called for a general strike on Friday and a women's sit-in at a social centre until all militia offices were shut and militiamen left Beirut.

"They want to kill you, make you homeless and deprive you of your property and dignity," Mr. Shatila's statement said.

Another notice distributed on the streets and headed "Obituary for an Oppressed City" said west Beirut had been "martyred by Tartars, Moguls and Persians."

Syria also showed its anger against the PSP and Amal, its principal Lebanese allies.

The Damascus government newspaper Tishrine said the battles had set back Syrian-sponsored peace moves between them and the mainly Christian "Lebanese Forces" militia. Agents had done "their utmost to... obstruct the peace process," it said.

"Flag war" proves fragility of Lebanese alliances, page 4



Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak receives Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai in Cairo on Tuesday

Petra photo

Jordan, Egypt to set up joint ventures, holding company

CAIRO (Agencies) — Jordan and Egypt have decided to set up several joint companies including a holding company that would invest funds in a number of joint projects.

The projected holding company with a capital of \$50 million will have its headquarters in Amman and will supervise the implementation of joint agricultural and business projects and market their products in the two countries and abroad.

The decision was announced here at the end of a first round of talks by the joint Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee, co-chaired by Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai and his Egyptian counterpart Ali Lutfi.

The announcement, made by Information Minister Mohammad Al Khatib, said that the two sides decided also to set up a joint fisheries company in Aqaba and another firm for producing greenhouses for agriculture.

Mr. Khatib said the two sides were to resume meetings in Cairo later Tuesday and Wednesday.

The first round of the talks, held

at Al Tahira Palace, were attended on the Jordanian side by Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan, Minister of Industry and Trade Rajai Mueasher, Minister of Transport Farhi Obeid, Minister of Higher Education Nassereddin Al Assad, Mr. Khatib, who is also minister of Culture and Tourism, Minister of Agriculture Ahmad Dakhan, Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Trade Mohammad Al Saqqaf, Dr. Ziyad Fariz, secretary-general of the Ministry of Planning, Central Bank Deputy Governor Dr. Maher Shukri, Dr. Fayed Tarawneh, economic advisor at the Prime Ministry, Mr. Akham Jousous, director of the prime minister's office, and Hussein Hammami, Jordan's ambassador to Egypt.

On the Egyptian side, the talks were attended by Defence Minister Abdul Halim Abu Ghazala, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Planning and International Cooperation Kamal Jazouiri, Minister of Agriculture Yusef Wali, Minister of Manpower Saad

Mohammad Ahmad, Minister of Transport and Communications Suleiman Mitwalli, Minister of Information Safwat Al Sharif, Minister of Industry Mohammad Abdul Wahhab, Minister of Economy and Foreign Trade Mohammad Sultan Abu Ali, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research Mohammad Fathi Ali, two advisors from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Egypt's Ambassador to Jordan Ihab Wahibeh.

According to Mr. Khatib's announcement, the two sides reviewed the process of cooperation and coordination between the two countries and followed up talks on various subjects which the joint committee held in Amman last April.

Later on Tuesday, Mr. Rifai and Mr. Lutfi were received by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak at Al Jubah Palace. The president also hosted a lunch banquet for the two delegations.

Mr. Lutfi hosted a dinner Tuesday night in honour of the visiting Jordanian delegation.

Reagan signs law delaying arms sales to Jordan

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President Ronald Reagan has signed legislation that formally postpones a \$1.9-billion arms sale to Jordan until March 1 unless Jordan opens "meaningful peace talks" with Israel before then.

Faced with overwhelming opposition in Congress to the sale, Mr. Reagan had been forced earlier to accept the delay of the sale of aircraft, missiles and other weapons. He signed the delay into law on Monday.

Mr. Reagan, in a written statement, said that between now and March, he will continue to pursue the goal of "prompt" direct negotiations between Jordan and Israel.

Following is the text of the president's statement:

On Oct. 21, I submitted to Congress a formal notification of the proposed sale of fighter aircraft, air defence missiles, armoured vehicles, and other equipment to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. The number and type of arms included in our proposal were selected only after careful study of Jordan's legitimate defensive needs.

"I have today signed into law Senate Joint Resolution 228, which provides that no letter of offer for any of the advanced weapons systems, including advanced aircraft and advanced air defence systems, included in our proposed sale to Jordan will be valid before March 1, 1986, unless Jordan enters direct negotiations with Israel before that date. This legislation 'expresses Congress' belief that the peace process should be our primary concern."

"Peace remains my main concern as it is that of King Hussein, Prime Minister Peres and other responsible leaders throughout the Middle East."

(Continued on page 3)

Zafer Masri named mayor of Nablus

RAMALLAH, Occupied West Bank (Agencies) — Israeli occupation authorities announced on Tuesday that they were appointing a prominent Palestinian as mayor of Nablus for the first time since 1982.

Colonel Efraim Sneh, head of the Israeli administration in the West Bank, told a news conference he had accepted a request from Nablus businessman Zafer Masri and the city's 11-man Chamber of Commerce to take over municipal affairs.

A date for a transfer of power would be set soon, with Mr. Masri becoming mayor, the colonel said. Mr. Masri is chairman of the Chamber of Commerce.

Israel has been responsible for municipal affairs since the army sacked Mayor Basam Shaka's in a purge of Palestinian nationalist leaders three-and-a-half years ago.

Mr. Masri told reporters on Tuesday the overwhelming majority of the city's 100,000 residents wanted Palestinians to run it again.

He said he had not coordinated the move with Jordan and it had nothing to do with Middle East peace moves. The ideal solution would be to hold elections, he said.

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Surviving hijacker recovering in Malta

VALLETTA (Agencies) — A wounded air pirate, the only one to survive the world's bloodiest hijacking, was reported out of danger on Tuesday and under close police guard at a Valletta hospital.

Maltese authorities said the man, one of five Arab extremists whose seizure of an Egyptian plane ended in a bloodbath with

the deaths of 10 people, was recovering from wounds, as the leader of the hijackers who seized control of an Egyptian flight at the weekend. Government spokesman Paul Mifsud named the man as Omar Marzouki,

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Mubarak: Libyan link to hijacking is clear

CAIRO (Agencies) — President Hosni Mubarak said on Tuesday Libya's connection to the Egyptian hijacking was clear and added "we will never leave a terrorist act unpunished." But he said Egypt wants peace not war.

Mr. Mubarak told reporters the hijackers of the Boeing 737 seized on a Saturday night flight from Athens to Cairo, belong to a renegade Palestinian group, one of whose leaders is staying in the Grand Hotel in Tripoli, Libya.

Asked whether Egypt planned a military strike against Libya in retaliation, Mr. Mubarak said: "We are not callers for war. We are callers for peace."

Security sources, requesting anonymity, told the AP Egyptian troops remained on alert on Tuesday along the tense Libyan border after reinforcements were rushed there last weekend.

"War is not a simple thing," Mr. Mubarak added. "We cannot take that decision simply, and whoever punishes one person does not punish a whole people."

He said Egypt's next move in the crisis "will be discussed sometime in the future."

In a commentary on Monday, Cairo Radio for the first time openly accused Libya of "funding and instigating" the hijacking.

"This cowardly act was carried out by dissident Palestinians with funding and instigating from (Col. Muammar) Qadhafi's Libya, which is a well-known supporter and haven for terrorists," the official radio said.

Mr. Mubarak spoke with reporters after separate meetings with Defence Minister Field Marshal Abdul Halim Abu Ghazala and Soviet Ambassador Alexandre Belongov, who afterwards said Moscow condemns "all acts of terrorism."

Following the meeting, Marshal Abu Ghazala told reporters Egypt had "some" evidence of Libyan involvement in the hijacking, which ended Sunday when Egyptian commandos stormed the plane at an airport in Malta. Some 60 people died in the hijacking, most of them when the commandos attacked the plane.

Mr. Mubarak, briefing reporters for the first time since the hijacker drama, said Egypt took the decision to storm the aircraft after all efforts to establish a dialogue with the hijackers failed.

Mr. Mubarak said Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid had telephoned his Libyan counterpart Ali Abdul Salaam Tureiki shortly after the plane was seized to convey Cairo's suspicions of Libyan involvement.

"The Libyan foreign minister said 'it couldn't be us' and said he would call back in 15 minutes," Mr. Mubarak said. "We tried to call back again but there was never any answer."

Mr. Mubarak refused to identify the Palestinian group suspected of carrying out the hijacking. Asked if the ringleader was Abu Nidal, an extremist Palestinian leader, Mr. Mubarak said "I know who is behind this but I can't speak openly. There will be a time for everything."

In Baghdad, a Palestinian official said the hijackers were not Palestinians, but were linked to an Arab intelligence group.

"Those murderers were not Palestinians and have no relation whatsoever with Palestine," he said.

The unnamed official told the Iraqi News Agency (INA): "Those killers were part of a group attached to an Arab intelligence body." He would not elaborate.

The PLO official pointed out that Palestinians were among the passengers killed in Valletta and warned against efforts to distort the Palestinian image "before Arabs and the world."

"Rescue operation was inevitable"; U.S. reportedly helped Egypt in rescue mission, page 2

U.S. had warned of possible hijack, page 8

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Brazil-born girl stages suicide attack on SLA

Baath Party says between 7 and 15 killed

SIDON, Lebanon (AP) — A 17-year-old Brazilian-born girl was killed when she drove an explosives-packed car into an Israeli-backed militia checkpoint in South Lebanon Tuesday in a suicide attack, a pro-Syrian faction claimed.

The Arab Socialist Baath Party claimed in a statement released in Sidon, South Lebanon's provincial capital, that several cars belonging to Israeli intelligence agents parked near the checkpoint were blown up.

The statement made no mention of casualties among the Israeli or its militia allies of the mainly Falangist South Lebanon Army (SLA).

But Baathist sources in Sidon, 40 kilometres south of Beirut, reported that there were between seven and 15 dead or wounded.

The Baathists identified the suicide bomber as Hamida Mustafa from the north eastern Syrian town of Deir Ezzor.

The party said she crashed a

blue Peugeot Sedan packed with 300 kilograms of TNT into an SLA checkpoint at Reimat, 7 kilometres east of the SLA-held stronghold of Jezzine.

Jezzine is 40 kilometres south of Beirut and 34 kilometres north of the Israeli border.

The mountain town has been under SLA control since Israel established a self-styled "security belt" in South Lebanon last June, when it withdrew the bulk of its army from Lebanon after three years of occupation.

It was the 14th car bomb attack or attempted attack in South Lebanon since June 10 when Israel pulled the bulk of its forces out of Lebanon. Many have been launched by Lebanese guerrillas trying

ing to force Israeli soldiers and the SLA militia to withdraw from the region.

Military sources also reported that the SLA found two bodies Tuesday morning near Jezzine. Militiamen had fired at a suspicious group of men in the same area on Monday night, the sources said.

Tuesday's reported attack was the second suicide mission carried out by the Arab Socialist Baath Party in the zone.

Issam Ahmad Hussein Khodr, 24, was killed when he crashed his TNT-laden car into an SLA checkpoint near the village of Kfar Houne on Sept. 3. The 1st-31st made no mention of any other casualties in that attack.

The Arab Socialist Baath Party is one of several factions fighting the Israeli and the SLA under the banner of the Lebanese Resistance Front.

They seek to force the Israelis and their militia allies out of the border buffer zone.

U.S. offers reward for arrest of Abu Abbas

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States has offered a reward of up to \$250,000 for information leading to the capture of Mohammed Abbas, the Palestinian accused by Washington of masterminding the Achille Lauro ship hijacking.

"Today the United States government announces a reward of up to \$250,000 for information leading to the apprehension and effective prosecution and punishment of Abu Abbas as well as any others not yet in custody," said State Department spokesman Charles Redman Monday.

Mr. Redman said the Palestinian leader, also known as Abu Abbas, was "responsible for the terrorist action which resulted in the seizure of the Italian cruise ship Achille Lauro on Oct. 7 by Palestinian commandos.

The three-day hijacking, during which an American was killed, strained U.S. relations with Egypt and Italy.

The United States hijacked an Egyptian plane carrying the hijackers to an unknown destination, forcing it to land in Sicily.

Abu Abbas was aboard the plane but Italian authorities refused a U.S. request to detain him in Italy and he flew to Yugoslavia, where that government also declined Washington's pleas that he be detained or extradited to the United States.

Mr. Redman denied that the timing of the reward had any connection to the hijacking of an Egyptian plane which ended Sunday in Malta.

"The decision is made in each individual case on the merits of that particular case in order to have maximum effectiveness," Mr. Redman said. "It's one of the tools in the fight against terrorism."

"It was judged that in this particular case, now was the appropriate time to do it," he said. Mr. Redman declined to say whether the reward had been prompted by any new information in the case, but he said the decision to offer the reward now had been made in "close consultation with the Department of Justice."

2 Israelis hurt in S. Lebanon road blast

TEL AVIV (R) — Two Israeli soldiers were wounded slightly in South Lebanon when an explosive charge was detonated as their patrol vehicle passed, an Israeli military spokesman said.

He said the incident occurred near Beit Yahoun north of Bint Jbeil in the Israeli-declared "security zone." It was the second time this week two Israeli soldiers have been wounded after months without any casualties.

Israel has continued to patrol the "security zone" since officially withdrawing from Lebanon in June after a three-year occupation.

Rescue operation was inevitable—Abu Ghazala

CAIRO (R) — Egypt's defence minister has described the storming of the hijacked Egyptian plane at Malta, in which 60 people died, as inevitable.

The Al-Ahram newspaper said only seven soldiers were fired during the brief operation by elite Egyptian troops.

It reported that three shots hit one hijacker who managed to reach the flight deck where the air-traffic controller killed him with an axe. The other four shots killed another hijacker, it said.

Maltese officials said 60 people were killed on board the Boeing 737 at Valletta's Luqa Airport, where it landed after being hijacked during an Athens-Cairo flight.

The Defence Minister Field-Marshal Abdul Halim Abu Ghazala said on television Monday night it had seemed very likely the hijackers would kill all the passengers and blow up the plane.

"We hoped that casualties would be less but we could not predict that one would lose hand

grenades," he said. "If we did not carry out the operation, such acts will happen again. What the hijackers were doing made the operation inevitable."

Egypt has broadly hinted that Libya was behind the hijack.

A statement on Cairo Radio Monday said Egypt believed the hijackers were members of a splinter group of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) which worked for "an Arab state which practises terrorism and harbours terrorists."

Official sources said that although the statement did not name the Arab state, Egypt thought Libya was responsible for the operation.

In a thinly-veiled warning the statement said: "Those who did wrong will later know what they brought upon themselves."

Egypt and Libya have been at loggerheads since 1973 over Cairo's handling of its war against Israel and policies which led to the signing in 1979 of a U.S.-

sponsored peace treaty with Israel. The Egyptians and Libyans fought a border war in 1977.

Military sources said on Sunday that Egypt declared a state of emergency in the western region bordering Libya where it has deployed a large force for nearly a decade.

But the official sources denied the state of emergency was a prelude to military action, saying President Hosni Mubarak's government believed such a move would harm Cairo's standing with African and Arab states.

Egypt has over the past few years been courting African countries to try to protect its interests, especially in Nile Basin countries such as Sudan and Libya's ally Ethiopia.

The sources said that although some African states had repeatedly complained of Libyan policies, military action against Tripoli would be viewed as a violation of the charter of the Organisation of African Unity.

They said Arab states, currently

involved in high-level diplomacy to patch up differences among themselves, would also disapprove of military action. Most Arab states broke diplomatic ties with Egypt in 1979 over its separate peace treaty with Israel but relations have steadily improved since 1982.

The statement hinting at Libyan involvement came two weeks after Egyptian authorities said four Libyans had been arrested for plotting to assassinate Libyan exiles living in Egypt.

Egypt said they had entered the country illegally and planned to kill former Libyan Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Al Bakoush who heads a non-violent group opposed to Libya's leader, Col. Muammar Qaddafi.

A leading columnist in Cairo's mass-circulation daily Al-Akhbar, Mustapha Amin, wrote Tuesday that the hijackers wanted to swap the passengers for the four Libyans, detained in Egypt since their arrest on Nov. 6.

Kuwait against prisoner-hostage swap

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait would oppose any deal to free 17 Arab gunmen it jailed for a series of 1983 bombings in return for American hostages held in Lebanon, officials said Tuesday.

"We refuse to connect the two issues," one official told Reuters. He asked not to be named.

Terry Waite, an aide to the archbishop of Canterbury, trying to secure the release of the four hostages, said in New York on Monday his next step would be talks with Kuwaiti officials.

Mr. Waite said he had met the kidnappers in Beirut, but he would not identify the mystery group holding Catholic priest Lawrence Jenco. Associated Press correspondent Terry Anderson and American University employees Thomas Sutherland and David Jacobson.

Gunmen have staged several attacks to try and secure the release of the 17 Arabs.

Official sources here noted that Kuwait Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah last week reaffirmed his government's stand on the issue.

"The Americans have nothing to do with the convicts who have been tried and sentenced fairly," Sheikh Sabah told the London-based weekly Al-Sayid.

Pro-Iranian Shi'ite Muslims are among those convicted of bombing state targets as well as the U.S. and French embassies here in December 1983. The blasts killed six people and were apparently designed to protest against Kuwait's backing for Iraq in its war with Iran.

The shadowy Muslim extremist group Islamic Jihad (holy war), which says it is holding six Americans and four Frenchmen in Lebanon, claimed responsibility for the attacks.

Last September Islamic Jihad freed one American captive, Pre-

sbyterian pastor Benjamin Weir, who said his captors told him they would kill the other Americans if the United States failed to press Kuwait to free its prisoners.

The hostages' relatives have also tried to pressure the U.S. authorities to persuade Kuwait to free the 17 Arabs.

Four Arabs hijacked a Kuwaiti airliner to Tehran last December in a bid to get the prisoners freed. Two American passengers were killed.

Three of the Kuwait bombers were sentenced to hang. The remainder were jailed for terms ranging from five years to life. Three Iraqis still at large were also sentenced to death for their part in the explosions.

Apparently no executions have taken place.

Sheikh Sabah, asked by Al-Sayid newspaper why none of the 20-month-old death penalties had been enforced, said: "The sentences have to be ratified by the emir, and he is free to do it at his will."

The emir, Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, survived a car bomb attack in May. Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility after warning that it was losing patience over its demands.

The delay in executions has fuelled speculation that a secret deal of prisoners for U.S. hostages might be possible.

But diplomats said the chances of keeping such a deal secret were remote, even if it was seriously considered here.

They said Kuwaiti efforts to smooth volatile ties with Iran and moves by Gulf states to try negotiate an end to the Iran-Iraq war may have led it to postpone the hangings. The risk of reprisals could also have been a factor, they added.

Mr. Waite Monday said his next step in seeking the release of four

American held hostage in Beirut would be to talk to Kuwaiti officials.

"There is a way through this by speaking to the Kuwaiti government but I don't want to be seen putting public pressure on them," Mr. Waite said.

"I think it possible for a way to go forward on this, but I don't want to be specific," he added at a press conference marked by a telephone call with the Chicago family of Lawrence Jenco, a Catholic priest taken hostage last January.

Mr. Waite said he wanted to return to Beirut on Wednesday to resume negotiations for the release of the hostages.

The Anglican Church envoy was in Beirut last week to negotiate face-to-face with their captors.

At his press conference, he refused to name the group holding their hostage, saying this "information would be dangerous to my life and theirs (the captives)."

Mr. Waite described the hostages' radical Muslim captors as "coldly rational" men eager to end the kidnapping. He said they made no specific demands although their conversations had revealed ways of securing the release of the four.

The envoy, who described the Kuwaiti government as acting honourably and justly, said he met its ambassador in London before he left for Beirut 10 days ago.

Asked if he trusted the kidnappers, Mr. Waite said: "I have no option. I think if they gave their word, they would keep it. I think they would like a resolution of this problem."

Mr. Waite said he had no information on whether two other Americans held captive in Beirut, diplomat William Buckley and librarian Peter Kilburn, were alive or dead.

U.S. reportedly aided Egypt in rescue mission

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States aided Egypt's assault on a hijacked airliner by providing secret equipment and radar guidance to commandos on their way to Malta, ABC News and the Washington Post reported Tuesday.

ABC said the Egyptian forces were given information from an EEC long-range radar plane from the U.S. aircraft carrier Coral Sea for a rescue attempt on the hijacked Boeing 737 which left 60 people dead.

Other U.S. aircraft monitored Libyan communications in case Libya tried to intercept the plane or take other retaliatory action against Egypt, it observed.

The Post, citing unidentified Pentagon officials, said the United States gave the Egyptian forces "technical support," including portable listening gear which allowed the commandos to determine the hijackers' positions inside the plane.

The United States also offered to provide air support to the commandos in case their plane was intercepted but Egypt did not ask for that help, the Post said.

Pentagon spokesmen declined to comment on the reports. The Post quoted an unidentified Reagan administration official as saying the offer of military assistance was part of a "get tough" policy on terrorist attacks.

In another development, Athens Airport Commander George Papadimitropoulos was quoted by the London Times as saying that he received a warning from the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) of an impending hijack attempt in late November. (See page 8).

The Egyptian plane was hijacked after it left Athens for Cairo, but Greece has staunchly defended its airport security and said the weapons used in the hijack did not come through Athens airport.

An FAA spokesman declined to comment on whether the specific information was provided to Greek officials but said it was agency policy to pass along such information to other airlines and airports when it is obtained.

"We in the FAA do from time to time pick up information that leads us to suspect that a hijack attempt may be likely," FAA spokesman Stephen Hayes told Reuters.

The United States has come out in support of the Egyptian raid against the hijackers despite the high death toll.

IATA to inspect airports

Meanwhile a mission of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) left for Cairo and Athens Tuesday to inspect airport security following the Egyptian hijack tragedy in which 60 people died.

IATA spokesman David Kyd said the three-member team, which included Security Director Rodney Wallis and two other specialists, would first travel to Cairo and was due later in the week in Athens to discuss security with local officials.

Mr. Kyd said the organisation believed screening procedures were adequate in Athens, from where the Egyptian Boeing 737 set off before being forced to land in Malta, and in Cairo, where the plane had been heading.

"What we want to look at particularly is how an aircraft is protected when parked on the tarmac," Mr. Kyd said.

A number of people had access to the parked plane including cleaners and catering staff, he said. "We want to prevent smuggling of arms on board for terrorists to pick up later."

The 134-member IATA, which represents the world's major airlines, Monday called on governments to improve security for airlines and the two million people who use them every day.

AUB names new chairman

NEW YORK (AP) — The American University of Beirut (AUB) announced the election of Dr. Frederic P. Herter to succeed Najeeb E. Halaby as chairman of the University Board of Trustees.

A statement said Monday that Dr. Herter is a surgeon at Presbyterian hospital in New York and professor of surgery at Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Dr. Halaby, a former administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration and chairman of Pan American World Airways, had reached the mandatory retirement age, the statement said.

Dr. Herter, a native of New York, has been at Columbia Presbyterian since his graduation from Harvard Medical School. He is a consultant at a number of other hospitals.

Expert predicts 50 more years of African drought

LONDON (R) — Africa must brace itself for drought until at least the year 2040 and prepare to resettle large numbers of people fleeing across frontiers, an expert on the world's climate has said.

"We must be prepared for the worst. We could be confronted with a major population disaster," said Professor Hubert Lamb of the Climatic Research Unit of Britain's East Anglia University.

He predicted that the drought conditions which have plagued the sub-Saharan Sahel region since the 1960s would continue for at least a further 50 years.

Low and unpredictable rainfall, part of a 200-year climatic cycle, is caused by the monsoon-bearing equatorial rain-belt shifting southward. Prof. Lamb said at a conference, examining the geographical background to Africa's drought.

He said a conference of African nations was needed to plan resettling people of the Sahel, which includes Sudan and Ethiopia.

Prof. Lamb said the drought last year in the Sahel coincided with changes in prevailing ocean temperatures.

Since 1965 there had been lower than average rainfall and a long succession of dry years remained unbroken with last year's drought in the region the worst on record, he said.

"There could be a lot more people crossing frontiers," he said.

Anthony Gore, director of

Cambridge University's Centre for African Studies, told the conference he could not imagine moving people out of the Sahel with land in Africa already scarce.

"The population in the sub-Saharan, already standing at 435 million, was growing at an annual rate of 3.2 per cent against the rest of the world's 2.3 per cent, Gore said.

The international relief agency Oxfam also attended the conference and criticised Britain's record on overseas aid.

Oxfam's Overseas Services coordinator Richard Copeland said the aid budget of 0.33 per cent of gross national product made Britain "just about the meanest nation in Europe."

Rains have improved harvest prospects in parts of Africa but 25 million people are still affected by famine and \$1.5 billion emergency aid will be needed next year, a United Nations official said Monday.

Maurice Strong, executive director for the U.N. office for Emergency Operations in Africa, told a news conference the return of rains had "broken the drought but not the famine in all areas."

Some 25 million people were still affected by famine, down from an estimated 35 million early this year, he said, but some countries continued to require urgent relief. These were Angola, Botswana, Cape Verde, Ethiopia, Lesotho, Mozambique and Sudan.

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21:00 News in Arabic

22:00 Wrestling

23:00 News in Arabic

FOREIGN CHANNEL

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19:30 News in Hebrew

20:00 News in Arabic

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07:00 Light Music

07:30 Newsday

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08:30 News Summary

09:00 Morning Show

10:00 Pop Session

11:00 News Summary

12:00 Pop Session Contd.

13:00 News Summary

14:00 Pop Session

15:00 News Summary

16:00 News Summary

17:00 News Summary

18:00 News Summary

19:00 News Summary

20:00 News Summary

21:00 News Summary

22:00 News Summary

23:00 News Summary

24:00 Close Down

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz

06:00 Newsday 06:30 Waveguide 06:40

Book Choice 06:45 Financial News

06:45 Reflections 07:00 World News

07:30 24 Hours: News Summary 07:30

07:30 The World 07:45 The World Today

08:00 Newsday 08:30 Meridian 09:00

World News 09:00 24 Hours: News

Summary 09:30 The Falconer's Tale

09:45 That's The Trud 10:00 World News

10:00 Reflections 10:15 Classical Record

Review 10:30 Just A Minute 11:00

World News 11:00 British Press Review

11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial

News 11:45 News Summary: The State of the

Union 12:30 Johnstone and Chippell 12:45

World News 13:00 News about Britain 13:15

Music Shop 13:28 A Letter from Wales 13:30

Meridian 14:00 Radio Newsworld 14:15

Lawrence 14:28 The Farming World 14:45

Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:00 24

Hours: News Summary 15:30 Music from the

Kewes 16:00 News Summary: Outlook 16:30

Hubert Gregg Remembers 16:45 The Sacred Choir

17:00 Newsday 17:15 A Gift of God 17:30

Frank Muir Goes 18:00 World News 18:00

Commentary 18:15 Rock Salad 18:45 The

World Today 19:00 World News 19:00 A Letter

from Wales 19:15 Assignment 19:

Home news

King urges thorough study of Prophet's life

ISLAMABAD (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein said in a message to a conference on the life of the Prophet Muhammad that celebration of the Prophet's birthday anniversary Monday was a form of honouring the Prophet, and the noble mission he carried to the world.

King Hussein called on the participants in the conference to intensify their efforts to conduct a thorough study on the life of the Prophet and focus attention on international aspects in his life.

The message, delivered on behalf of the King by Mr. Majed Al Haj Hassan, Jordan's ambassador to Pakistan, conveyed the King's greetings to Muslims around the world and wished the delegates success.

Pakistan President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq opened the conference with a speech in which he called on the participants to conduct study and derive noble meanings from the life of the Prophet. Delegates from 20 Islamic nations are taking part in the two-day conference.

Prince Hassan meets with visiting Romanian delegation

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan conferred at his office in Amman with visiting Romanian Minister of Planning Ion Constantinescu and his accompanying delegation. The minister conveyed good wishes for His Majesty King Hussein from the Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu on his 50th birthday and greetings to Crown Prince Hassan.

At the meeting they discussed bilateral cooperation in economic, technical, cultural and scientific

fields and ways to bolster this cooperation further.

Minister of Planning Abdullah Nsour was also present at the meeting. Dr. Nsour met with the Romanian delegation here Monday and discussed areas of cooperation between the two countries. Jordan and Romania are due to sign a long term agreement on bilateral cooperation on Thursday when the Romanian delegation ends its five-day visit to Jordan.

Arab Dentists Federation opens meeting in Amman

AMMAN (Petra) — The higher council of the Arab Dentists Federation (ADF) opened a four-day meeting in Amman Tuesday to discuss a financial report by the federation's secretary general and to prepare the ground for a general conference on dentistry in Damascus in the coming year.

Addressing the opening session was Health Minister Zeid Hamzeh, who reaffirmed Jordan's commitment to ensuring continued support and assistance to Arab dentists in the occupied Arab territories, and in helping them to withstand arbitrary Israeli actions directed against them.

The minister also spoke about Jordan's endeavours to improve dental services. He said that Jordan has made good progress in this respect, but has not yet reached the aspired level of dental services

for the public.

Jordanian Dentists Association (JDA) President Dr. Walid Maraga gave a speech in which he said that such meetings enable Arab dentists to exchange expertise and views about the profession and contribute towards improving the profession of dentistry.

Dr. Maraga referred to the Arab dentists under Israeli rule and paid tribute to their heroic stand in the face of arbitrary Israeli measures.

ADF Secretary General Dr. Abdullah Subahi made a speech at the opening session in which he said that the federation has contributed positively towards raising the efficiency and improving the capabilities of dentists and has represented Arab dentists in various regional and international organisations.

Hassan II rules out direct talks with Peres

(Continued from page 1)

"We know that we must consider the coalition needs of the Arab World," Peres said. "Our agreement to international accompaniment is based on the willingness to consider Jordan's position."

Peres also said it was important that his meeting with King Hassan "takes place in public."

In more detail than previously, Peres accepted the Arab demand for an international involvement in a Middle East peace conference but said Israel's agreement was based on conditions.

"This forum cannot intervene in the negotiations," the premier said. "It cannot dictate to us or the Jordanians any condition whatsoever."

He added that an international forum could not negate agreements reached between Jordan and Israel in negotiations. "In other words, an international forum cannot and has no right to decide on the negotiations between us and the Jordanians," Peres said.

In a statement issued by his office late Monday night, Peres said he had exchanged messages with King Hassan and he was ready to meet with the current chairman of the Arab League.

The Dava newspaper, which often speaks for Peres' Labour Party, added that Peres was ready for a meeting "immediately and in any place." It quoted him as saying: "I didn't pass to (King Hassan) any special request for a meeting, but in recent years there has been an exchange of messages between us."

In his question-and-answer session with the high school students, Peres referred to newspaper reports that he had travelled to Morocco to meet with King Hassan in the past and joked that: "I understand that I am an old Moroccan."

In his interview with French journalists, on Monday King Hassan said, "Mr. Shimon Peres has let me know that he would like to come and see me. So I told him: With the greatest pleasure, but you and I are forbidden to do tourism. Come and see me."

King Hassan said that while he was willing to receive the Israeli leader, he would be equally "ready to break off immediately with him and say he is a joker or a utopian" if Peres had nothing serious to discuss.

The king, who chaired the last Arab summit in Casablanca in August, said Egypt's return to the Arab fold would have to be decided by an Arab summit but it

could be done without preconditions.

Egypt was suspended from the Arab League following its separate peace treaty with Israel in 1979.

King Hassan said he expected a regular Arab summit to take place in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, by next February.

He said he approved Saudi King Fahd's decision to delay the meeting pending the outcome of initiatives by Arab reconciliation committees.

King Hassan said it was up to other Arab leaders to meet Peres if they wanted, adding that the



Minister of Health Zeid Hamzeh addresses a conference of the Higher Arab Dentists Council in Amman on Tuesday (Petra photo)

King inspects brigade, praises troops

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein inspected Al Hussein Ibn Ali brigade Tuesday and watched training and other activities carried out by the troops.

The King was later briefed by senior officers on the training programmes for the troops, which included target shooting with light and medium size weapons, and

also watched a physical training exercise and distributed awards to the winners.

The King also attended a ceremony for the graduation of a new batch of bodyguards and safety and security forces from the Royal Guard Battalion. The King watched the graduates carrying out shooting exercises on stationary

and mobile targets and expressed his admiration for the troops' skill.

At the outset of the tour, King Hussein inaugurated a new telephone exchange for the units.

The King was accompanied on the tour by Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and other senior officers.

Readings from American playwrights tonight

AMMAN (J.T.) — American drama and theatre scholar Glenn Young, who is currently on a two-day visit to Jordan, will be reading selections from the works of American playwrights during a discussion on Contemporary American Theatre at The American Centre, on Wednesday, Nov. 27, at 6:00 p.m.

Professor Young is a graduate of Yale University. At present, he is a visiting professor on playwriting at Columbia University. He is the Director of the Wesleyan University Graduate Liberal Studies and Playwriting Programmes. Glenn Young is the founder and president of Appellate Theater Books, which is a major source of dramatic and theatrical literature for professionals and students.

Health ministry to utilise beds in private hospitals

ZARQA (J.T.) — Health Minister Zeid Hamzeh said here Tuesday that his ministry will try to benefit from private hospitals in Jordan by sending patients to them, in a bid to take pressure off government hospitals in Zarqa and Amman.

The minister made the statement during an inspection visit to Zarqa's hospitals where he met with officials and doctors to discuss medical services. Later, at a meeting held at the governor's house, the minister said that the government hospital in Zarqa is facing increasing pressure from the public and the ministry plans to modernise this hospital to allow it to handle as many patients as possible.

The minister heard Zarqa Governor Mohammad Dabaal and Dr.

Abdul Aziz Shriedeh, the hospital's director, give a briefing on medical and health conditions in the governorate and the hospital's services and needs. They said that 500 dunums of land was purchased recently for building a new hospital.

Later the minister toured health centres at Birein, Tawabin Al Udwain and Dougra where he was briefed on medical services and needs.

Dr. Hamzeh also accompanied local officials to Sukhneh in Zarqa Governorate, where he and Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Marwan Himoud opened Al Sukhneh medical centre, which offers pharmacy, inoculation and midwifery services.

FAO symposium calls for greater attention to nutrition

AMMAN (Petra) The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) Tuesday called on Arab countries to incorporate the subject of nutrition into agricultural and rural development programmes and in agricultural curricula at their universities.

The call came from FAO's director for the Near East region Dr. Izzeddin Bou Traif, at the opening of a symposium on nutrition held at the University of Jordan.

He said that the subject of nutrition and food security has been tackled numerous studies, seminars, and conferences held over the past few years and has attracted the attention of all Arab governments because nutrition plays a major role in the life and stability of nations.

Also addressing the opening session was Dr. Mahmoud Al Dweiri, dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, which cooperated with the FAO to organise the symposium.

New Arab science magazine gains approval of governments, educators

By Olga Mikhael
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — It takes any newly published magazine or newspaper a good span of time to prove itself and gain readers, but the newly born "Scientific Horizon" proved the opposite.

"Afaq Ithna," a bimonthly published by the Institute of Arab Research (Rawafid) and supported by Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation, has gained a good reputation and the support of many Arab governments and concerned institutes less than six months after the first issue rolled off the presses.

The Arab World is rich in political, artistic and literary magazines, yet the need for a scientific journal became apparent as a result of rapid advances in technology, a shift in people's interest in the Arab World and the increasing awareness of the Arab citizen of the role of technology in his life. Because of these developments, the Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation was very keen to bring onto the scene a scientific magazine that would address the Arab citizen wherever he is and whatever his specialisation is, as well as introducing the latest scientific developments and modern techniques in a simple and clear way.

At the beginning of this century, a few Arab scientific magazines were produced and played a large role in the development process in the Arab World. The most important of these magazines were "Al Hilal" and "Al Muqattar" (published in Cairo) and "Al Umm" (published in Beirut). However, these magazines were unable to continue for several reasons.

Today, "Scientific Horizons" is filling a clear gap in the field of scientific education in the Arab

World, aiming to serve the Arab citizen in general and the Arab student in particular. The magazine also aims to promote scientific understanding and explain proper scientific methods and concepts for the young generation.

Dr. As'ad Abdul Rahman, general manager of Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation and member of the board of directors of the magazine, explained that they were able to attract a good number of renowned Arab scientists and writers in a very short period of time.

Among the well known writers contributing to the magazine are Dr. Hani Hindi, Dr. Fouad Zakaria, and Dr. Ahmad Sweidan.

Dr. Abdul Rahman highlighted the main internal and external problems facing any newly established magazine. He explained that they have been able to overcome the internal problems such as the editorial standards of the magazine, printing and publishing procedures, and receiving feedback from different Arab governments and scientific institutions.

"I am proud to say that the magazine did not only keep the good standard but is developing and very quickly," Dr. Abdul Rahman said. "So far, he added, "We have printed 15,000 copies out of which 12,000 were distributed."

If the success of every magazine is measured by the degree of the reader's response, scientific horizons should become a very successful magazine given the very good feedback it is receiving from readers, governments, and especially the ministries of education in the Arab World.

Dr. Abdul Rahman explained that the Ministry of Education in Jordan has recommended this magazine for all schools in the Kingdom.

Majali: UNESCO is welcome in Jordan

By Samir Hiyari
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Abdul Wahab Al Majali said Tuesday that Jordan welcomed the idea of hosting the regional offices of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) and would provide all necessary facilities for such offices in Amman.

Dr. Majali expressed this view in a meeting with UNESCO Deputy Director Sheikh Bakri, who is leading a delegation currently visiting Jordan.

Jordan will also help facilitate the transfer of the offices from Beirut, where services have been disrupted due to the civil war, to Amman in order to help it resume operations. Dr. Majali said at the meeting.

The UNESCO offices were transferred from Beirut to Paris for a time during the civil war but the

conditions are very suitable now to transfer them to Jordan, in view of the political stability, skilled manpower, and the geographical location this country now offers.

Dr. Majali added. He said Jordan will be willing to provide the new headquarters in Amman with trained and skilled staff and remove all difficulties that might arise in the course of implementing UNESCO's programmes.

A meeting is scheduled for Thursday at the Ministry of Education

to work out final technical and administrative preparations for the transfer of the UNESCO's office to Amman as soon as possible.

After Tuesday's meeting Sheikh Bakri met with the Ministry of Education's Secretary General Abdul Latif Arabiyat, who also discussed the transfer issue.

Mr. Bakri expressed his satisfaction with the meetings and the facilities offered by the Jordanian government. He said that UNESCO will look forward to cooperating with the Ministry of Education and is deeply interested in making the transfer as soon as possible.

Both meetings were attended by Dr. Izzat Jaradat, director of general education at the ministry.

Mr. Bakri and his accompanying delegation will visit Yarmouk University, the Greco-Roman city of Jerash, the Nabataean city of Petra, and Aqaba before their ending visit to Jordan on Friday.

JD 400,000 raised for cancer centre

By Elia Nasrallah
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A national campaign for raising contributions to finance the establishment of Al Amal Centre for the Treatment of Cancer has collected JD 400,000 thus far, several organisations have offered to supply the centre with essential equipment, and several foreign nations offered to help finance the purchase of equipment, according to Dr. Abdullah Al Khatib, Secretary General of the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) in Jordan.

He told the Jordan Times Tuesday that the campaign will con-

tinue, and that GUVS plans to pursue fund raising campaigns for this purpose in cooperation with the private sector and a number of concerned government departments.

GUVS is represented in a national task force for the centre formed a year ago, along with representatives of the Ministry of Health, the Armed Forces Medical Services, the University of Jordan and a number of concerned Jordanians from the private sector. Dr. Khatib added.

He said that since the formation of the task force, its members had been involved in conducting research work on the needs of the projected centre and had been in

contact with several countries. The team paid visits to the United Kingdom and the United States recently and acquainted themselves with the cancer treatment centres there in order to benefit from their experience in Jordan. Dr. Khatib added.

He said that Health Minister Dr. Zeid Hamzeh met Tuesday with the task force members and discussed subjects related to the opening of the centre. At the meeting he said it was decided that the task force convene again on Wednesday to decide on a work plan for establishing the centre, its location and the various contributions and finances it will require.

German experts assess therapeutic value of Jordan's spring waters

By Monika Warich
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A team of two experts who have been studying Jordan's thermal and mineral springs concluded their 6-day visit on Tuesday.

Prof. Dieter Eichelsdorfer and Professor Wolfgang Schnitzer came here from Munich at the invitation of the Water Research and Study Centre (WRSC) of the University of Jordan to support research into the potential of the thermal springs at Afra, North Shuna, Zarqa, Ma'in, the Dead Sea and Aqaba. The WRSC is presently carrying out balneological studies involving medical doctors, a microbiologist and hydrologists from Jordan.

Professor Eichelsdorfer said that Jordan's mineral and thermal

waters offer an excellent basis for the establishment of all kinds of water-treatment facilities, but that further studies of their properties would be necessary before the most appropriate specific uses of the waters could be determined.

The spring of Afra contains radioactive elements, the character of which is still unclear, he said, while the water of the thermal well of North Shuna is rich with hydrogen sulphide. In Aqaba, they observed climatic factors which usually have a positive effect on general health as well as specific diseases, such as solar radiation, air temperature, and the content of finely dispersed salt particles in the air.

Professor Schnitzer, expert on medical balneology, said that thermal and mineral waters similar to those of Jordan are being used in other countries for the treatment of rheumatic diseases and post-operative rehabilitation, while the climate of Aqaba could influence bronchial illnesses, and salts of the Dead Sea have proved to be very

effective in the treatment of skin diseases, particularly psoriasis.

Jordan envoy to Austria presents credentials

VIENNA (Petra) — Jordan's new ambassador to Austria Adnan Talhouni has presented his credentials to Austrian President Rudolf Kirchschlager.

At the presentation ceremony the ambassador conveyed greetings from His Majesty King Hussein to the president and the Austrian people and wishes for prosperity and progress.

The Austrian president commended King Hussein's endeavours for establishing a just and durable Middle East peace and requested the ambassador to convey greetings to King Hussein and the Jordanian people.

Irbid District Electricity Co. Ltd. The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan Jordan Energy Development Project Irbid Loan 2371 - JO

Irbid District Electricity Company Ltd. (IDECG) invites tenders for the supply CIF Aqaba, Jordan of material listed below. The project will be financed by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and tenders are acceptable only from countries who are members of the IBRD, Switzerland, and Taiwan, China.

Materials for Electrical Distribution Network
1) Supply of High Voltage Materials and Bobbin Insulators - 25114/04/2
Tenders are invited for the supply and delivery CIF Aqaba of the following:
1000 KM Staywire
10000 Stay Rod
90000 Dog Clamp
50000 Bobbin Insulators
2200 Grossarm

Thimable, Trun Buckle, Clamps, Stayplate, fuse Isolator, Clips and Binding wire.

Tender document price U.S. Dollars 50 or JD equivalent. Tender documents are available and obtainable by application in writing to Irbid District Electricity Co., Ltd. P.O. Box (46), Irbid, The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, accompanied by a cheque for the appropriate JD amount as above; these sums are not refundable.

Tender documents will consist of three documents one of which contains the JEE/ MECH E General conditions of Contract (B1). Two copies of tenders must be submitted to IDECO office in Irbid by 12 noon on the 13th January 1986.

Fixed price contracts are required and tenders must be valid for four months and be accompanied by a Bid Bond as specified in the documents valid for four months.

Jordan Times

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The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

'Let our people go'

The following editorial appeared in Al Fajr - the Jerusalem-based Palestinian weekly - on Nov. 22.

'LET MY people go' was the cry of Israeli and Jewish groups around the world last week as all eyes focused on the superpower summit in Geneva. A well-orchestrated plea for the emigration of Soviet Jews and better treatment of Soviet dissidents found its way into world newspapers and onto international television screens throughout that week.

Here in the 'Holy Land' the cries for Soviet Jewry took on a special meaning. Israeli high school students were marched through the streets of major Israeli cities in a call for the 'release' of Soviet Jews. A Soviet Jewry demonstration was even organised at Rachel's Tomb in the occupied city of Bethlehem despite the fact that demonstrations are banned in the Israeli occupied territories.

Israel's Knesset dedicated a special session to the plight of Soviet Jews which was attended by the Israeli President Chaim Herzog and the Prime Minister Shimon Peres. This was only days after the same parliamentary chamber had echoed with the racist remarks of Kach leader Meir Kahane who while advocating increased Jewish immigration - whether Soviet or otherwise - also called for the expulsion of Palestinian Arabs from 'Eretz Israel'.

For Palestinians, Israeli and U.S. defence of human rights has a hollow ring. The 21 Palestinians deported since May, the four more now awaiting expulsion and the more than two million refugees not allowed the right to return find the Israeli and U.S. position hopelessly hypocritical. On the subject of human rights, those of us suffering under 18 years of Israeli military occupation could write a book.

We Palestinians want our situation addressed, too. If the freedom of movement, freedom of speech and freedom of assembly in Washington or grassroots America is to be held up as an example and thrown in the face of the Soviets' Gorbachev, let him toss back the denial of such freedoms in Israeli-occupied Ramallah, for example, and see how Reagan and his aides wince.

If military aggression is to be denounced, then let it be denounced everywhere, particularly in the West Bank and Gaza. World leaders must bring themselves to the point of honest reckoning. Let freedom ring - as they say - everywhere - in Washington, Moscow and Palestine. This is the formula which will bring about a lasting and comprehensive world peace.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Make peace not war

IT has become difficult to follow up the events in Lebanon, but what is not difficult is to realise that none of the warring factions wishes to see an end to the fratricidal war that has been going on for more than 10 years. The responsibility for ending the war lies squarely on the parties involved in the actual fighting in the streets and those who continue to bring devastation to their country and death to its people. Some of these factions were able to sign an agreement to end the fighting and to embark on a new era of peace, but the postponement of the signing offered a chance for civil elements to resume fighting and to tamper with the security of the country. When the leaders failed to sign the agreement they offered a chance for their armed followers in the streets to settle the issue by force and through more killings and more ruin. This tragedy will continue unless the leaders of the warring factions take a speedy measure to bring about a comprehensive reconciliation among various Lebanese groups. They can start by signing the Damascus accord that is designed to end the bloodshed. This time war leads nowhere to victory and can achieve nothing for any group and therefore, it is important for the different factions to make peace.

Al Dustour: No to terrorism

AGAIN terrorism has been used as a political weapon to cause further damage to the Arab causes, and to keep the Arabs weak and divided. The latest act of terrorism that took place in our region came at a time where an Arab League mediation committee was continuing its endeavours to bring an end to inter-Arab differences and disputes, and to bring about peace and reconciliation among them. The hijacking of the Egyptian plane and the killing of innocent people on board is another picture of the evil course taken up by certain criminals that continue to threaten security in our region and to present the Arabs as barbaric people intent on killing and destroying human civilisation. We are saddened to see such brutal actions and to see innocent people fall victims to them. We feel pain to see certain Arab regimes giving harbour to terrorists and criminals and supplying them with the means to pursue their course and their evil designs against their nation. It is high time for the Arabs to join hands and eliminate all these terrorist elements and all criminals and those who condone their actions.

Sawt Al Shaab: Resistance vs. terrorism

THE hijacking drama that ended in Malta and the tragic death of passengers prompt us to take some time to pause and contemplate such actions and their objectives. These terrorist actions have not achieved any goals for their perpetrators and neither did they realise any of the Arab people's aspirations. The terrorist actions have caused so much damage to the Arab causes and brought about more and more destruction and sufferings to the Arabs but not to their enemies. The whole world is watching us and everyone can realise and distinguish actions which are committed against the enemy and considered as resistance attacks from those committed against innocent people on planes which are to be considered as terrorist actions. Therefore, there can be no national objective for such criminal actions and no reason that can be beneficial to our causes. It is painful to see that these criminals who claim to be heroes of the nation directing their weapons to children and women and innocent people of different nationalities. We condemn these terrorist actions and those circles that stand behind them, collaborating with them in implementing evil actions.

Economic development in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip

By Ibrahim Matar

The following article is a paper presented at West Of Scotland Friends of Palestine's seminar in Glasgow, June 1985, by Ibrahim Matar.

WHEN we discuss development in the West Bank and Gaza Strip we should bear in mind two basic premises:

1. Economic development, or improvement in the quality of life, is no substitute for the political freedom and the basic human right of self-determination of the 1.3 million Palestinians living under Israeli military occupation for over 18 years now.
2. We should also not forget the present realities, mainly that the 1.3 million Palestinians are living under conditions of a totalitarian state, which hinder indigenous economic development. Israel is a democracy for the Israelis but not for the Palestinians and this is manifested by the daily repressive measures of the occupation authorities. I would like very briefly to summarise the aggregate impact of these measures on the Palestinians over the past 17 years.

a. Detention and imprisonment - 200,000 Palestinians have been imprisoned, or about 1/6 of the population, one in every family.
b. Deportation and expulsion without due process of law - over 1200 prominent leaders deported.
c. Demolition of houses without due process of law - over 1350 houses bulldozed or dynamited.
d. Other forms of collective punishment - such as extended curfews, travel bans on whole districts, house and town arrests, etc.

And Palestinians now also have to cope with vigilante settlers who act above the law, carrying guns and roaming around the West Bank in bands. They have become a powerful pressure group in formulating Israeli policies towards the Palestinians.

Despite the above difficulties the Palestinians under occupation are determined to stay on their land and develop their resistance. We know that freedom is not just around the corner, for what started as a temporary occupation has now become a permanent one.

So, faced with this no-choice situation, permanent occupation and repression, the Palestinians have three options open to them: 1) to turn to blind hatred and violence, and violence has not resolved any conflict. The Israeli invasion of Lebanon being a good example; 2) to submit to this repression and become docile slaves, which all Palestinians strongly reject; 3) to entrench ourselves on our land, our homes, defend and develop our resources, and, therefore, have hope for better future. The Arabic word for this latter course is 'sumud' or what has been called the "third way".

It is in the context of the "third way" that we should look at economic development in the West Bank - what I call Existentialist development, development for survival; which means a development strategy that will allow the Palestinians to survive on their own land, in their homes, with dignity and honour until liberation is possible. Thus the strategic objective of any development plan should be to enable the Palestinians to maintain and develop their resources, and therefore increase their chances of survival in their own country.

Having defined the strategic objectives, I'll now turn to the constraints to development arising from the occupation.
As you know, we lack a national independent government which is interested in the welfare of the Palestinians. On the contrary, we are ruled by faceless, anonymous Israelis in the military government and intelligence service who act as if their main function was simply to maintain their control over the Palestinians by the following means: 1) issuing military orders - there are over 1150 such orders on the West Bank alone which control every aspect of life; they amend existing Jordanian laws; 2) providing a minimum of services; 3) preventing indigenous development whenever this is construed as not in the interests of the occupier - in practice, almost always. I will now explore some of these constraints in detail.

1. The Public Sector: The military government in the West Bank and Gaza is the de-facto public sector. Since 1981 it has had no development budget. By examining for example the statistics for building started by the public sector for the period 1982-4, we find a figure of zero. In other words, the military, over the past three years, has not built one single home, classroom, hospital, or clinic, not even added any rooms to existing buildings. It has not supplied any hospitals with X-ray machines, or even washing machines. Its operational budget for the West Bank is approximately \$25 million, which covers the costs of services for 800,000 Palestinians for education, health, agricultural extension, social welfare and water supply. Yet the revenues collected from the people of the West Bank alone, in the form of income tax, value added tax (VAT), customs, etc., exceed \$300 million a year.

And for these same services in Israel itself, the state budget for FY 1983 exceeded \$7,000 million. Furthermore, for the development of infrastructure and construction of colonies exclusively for Israelis on the West Bank and Gaza, including the fortress housing estates in annexed East Jerusalem, the Israeli government spends an amount annually in excess of \$600 million.

2. External Aid: External aid for

development purposes for the West Bank and Gaza is not only negligible when compared with aid to Israel, but is also totally controlled by the military government. In fact, there is a military order which prevents any funds designated for West Bank development from entering the West Bank without military government approval and prevents the use of such funds without their approval. Approvals are also needed for U.S. Aid funds - appropriated by Congress to the tune of \$8 million annually, which are channelled through American voluntary agencies operating in the Occupied Territories, and to the U.N. programme. Israel has to approve each project submitted by these agencies and a recent study has shown that approval has regularly not been forthcoming for development projects in such areas as irrigation, agricultural cooperatives, land reclamation and any scheme which seeks to increase the productivity of the industrial and agricultural sectors.

On the other hand, Israel receives unconditional economic aid running into billions of dollars from the U.S. government that doesn't require the approval of the Palestinians even if it is used to build Israeli settlements on our land. The U.S.'s total aid to Israel for Fiscal Years 1984/85 and 85/86 will amount to \$7.1 billion.

3. Credit: There are no financial institutions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip that can provide loans for industrial or agricultural development, or for house building. All branches of commercial banks were closed in 1967, as were the Agricultural Credit Corporation, the Industrial Development Bank and the Housing Bank that were in operation up till that time. In brief, the society of Occupied Palestine has been a society without credit facilities since 1967.

4. Markets: The West Bank and Gaza Strip are captive markets for Israeli agricultural and manufactured goods. Whereas the Israelis can dump whatever they wish into the Occupied Territories, Gazan and West Bank producers cannot sell produce in Israel except with rarely granted permits. Thus we are faced with a one-way trade situation, to the benefit of one party and the direct detriment of the other. This captive market is now the largest export market for Israeli agricultural produce and in which Israel has no competition from producers anywhere else.

And where the territories do have a comparative advantage in a few crops, such as citrus in Gaza: grapes, plums and aubergines in the West Bank, which can compete with Israeli goods and can be smuggled across the border, then the military authorities issue military orders restricting planting. In the West Bank military orders 1015 and 1039 restrict planting of grapes, plums, tomatoes and aubergines without a permit from the military government. Furthermore, Palestinian producers have consistently been prevented

from exporting to Western Europe.
5. Natural Resources: Since 1967 the West Bank has been witnessing gradual shrinkage of its two basic resources, land and water. Thousands of acres of land cultivated by Palestinians have been seized by the Israeli authorities and transferred for the exclusive use of the Israeli colonies. This is particularly true of the Jordan Valley and the highlands overlooking it. These land seizures have taken place under the pretext of confiscation for public purposes (Israeli public only) or on grounds of security, or declared as state lands in accordance with Ottoman legislation.

But land is not simply an economic resource, it is a fundamental human resource also, being in this case the home of the Palestinian people. The most dangerous aspect of the occupation is the continuous dispossession and uprooting of the Palestinians and the subsequent establishment of colonies for Israeli settlers. It is undermining the continued existence of the Palestinian community on its own land. We are now witnessing the final phases of the liquidation of the historical land of Palestine, acre by acre.

It should be clear that all the justifications used by the Israelis for land seizure are in violation of international law, namely the Geneva Convention of 1949 and the Hague Convention of 1907. The occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip are a trust in Israeli hands and any exploitation of the resources of these territories for the Israelis' own purposes is a violation of that trust.

While we often hear about the strategic and political implications of the colonisation of the Occupied Territories, the human and economic implications of them are no less portentous. Palestinian communities are being systematically impoverished by Israel's seizure of their land and property. I have estimated the value of land confiscated in annexed East Jerusalem alone, counting only land seized for so-called "public purposes", to exceed \$500 billion. In addition to this impoverishment, there has also been a systematic policy of destroying Palestinian agriculture prior to the seizure of the land on which it is being practised. I have witnessed the ploughing up of wheatfields, bulldozing of olive and fig trees, cutting down of plum trees and uprooting of vines in order to clear the way for Israelis to settle the land.

This destruction of the Palestinian presence on the land began right after the June War of 1967. In June and July of 1967 three villages in the Latroun Salient, Yalu, Bayt Nuba and Imwas, with their six thousand households were razed to the ground. Ten thousand people were thereby made homeless. Now an Israeli colony is using some ten thousand acres that Palestinian farmers from these villages had been cultivating for generations. Then in August of 1967 three villages in the Jiflik Valley were bulldozed out of existence and their lands given over to the new Israeli settlement of Massina. The Israelis have carried on in the same vein to this day.

This expropriation of resources has not been confined to land. It has also involved the large scale exploitation, or should I say theft, of Palestine's scarce underground water resources for the exclusive use of Israeli settlements. Water development has effectively been at a standstill since 1967. Palestinians are not permitted to drill new wells for irrigation, and pumping from existing wells is metered and controlled by the Israelis.

I will now present a plan of action, or a list of potential projects that require support, and potential mechanisms for backing up and funding such projects.
1. Infrastructural projects for meeting basic needs of the four hundred odd villages and larger communities of the West Bank and Gaza Strip - which would normally be funded by the Public Sector which does not exist in the Occupied Territories.
For example:

a. Asphalting access and internal village roads.
b. Installing domestic water support systems for the villages.
c. Constructing schools, clinics, hospitals, community centers.
d. Independent electrification of the rural communities.
e. Agricultural roads for marketing purposes.

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a. Bringing new land into cultivation - land reclamation and terracing by bulldozers.
b. Trellising grapevines, thus quadrupling productivity.
c. Distribution of seedlings.
d. Use of pesticides and herbicides.
e. Development of small-scale machinery, tractors, sprayers, etc.

3. Water related projects - ideally allow local farmers to drill new wells, but considering the present constraints, then:
a. Improve on existing wells by purchasing new pumps and engines in order to improve efficiency.
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It should be clear that all the justifications used by the Israelis for land seizure are in violation of international law, namely the Geneva Convention of 1949 and the Hague Convention of 1907. The occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip are a trust in Israeli hands and any exploitation of the resources of these territories for the Israelis' own purposes is a violation of that trust.

While we often hear about the strategic and political implications of the colonisation of the Occupied Territories, the human and economic implications of them are no less portentous. Palestinian communities are being systematically impoverished by Israel's seizure of their land and property. I have estimated the value of land confiscated in annexed East Jerusalem alone, counting only land seized for so-called "public purposes", to exceed \$500 billion. In addition to this impoverishment, there has also been a systematic policy of destroying Palestinian agriculture prior to the seizure of the land on which it is being practised. I have witnessed the ploughing up of wheatfields, bulldozing of olive and fig trees, cutting down of plum trees and uprooting of vines in order to clear the way for Israelis to settle the land.

This destruction of the Palestinian presence on the land began right after the June War of 1967. In June and July of 1967 three villages in the Latroun Salient, Yalu, Bayt Nuba and Imwas, with their six thousand households were razed to the ground. Ten thousand people were thereby made homeless. Now an Israeli colony is using some ten thousand acres that Palestinian farmers from these villages had been cultivating for generations. Then in August of 1967 three villages in the Jiflik Valley were bulldozed out of existence and their lands given over to the new Israeli settlement of Massina. The Israelis have carried on in the same vein to this day.

This expropriation of resources has not been confined to land. It has also involved the large scale exploitation, or should I say theft, of Palestine's scarce underground water resources for the exclusive use of Israeli settlements. Water development has effectively been at a standstill since 1967. Palestinians are not permitted to drill new wells for irrigation, and pumping from existing wells is metered and controlled by the Israelis.

I will now present a plan of action, or a list of potential projects that require support, and potential mechanisms for backing up and funding such projects.
1. Infrastructural projects for meeting basic needs of the four hundred odd villages and larger communities of the West Bank and Gaza Strip - which would normally be funded by the Public Sector which does not exist in the Occupied Territories.
For example:

a. Asphalting access and internal village roads.
b. Installing domestic water support systems for the villages.
c. Constructing schools, clinics, hospitals, community centers.
d. Independent electrification of the rural communities.
e. Agricultural roads for marketing purposes.

2. Agricultural projects
a. Bringing new land into cultivation - land reclamation and terracing by bulldozers.
b. Trellising grapevines, thus quadrupling productivity.
c. Distribution of seedlings.
d. Use of pesticides and herbicides.
e. Development of small-scale machinery, tractors, sprayers, etc.

3. Water related projects - ideally allow local farmers to drill new wells, but considering the present constraints, then:
a. Improve on existing wells by purchasing new pumps and engines in order to improve efficiency.
b. Introduction of mini-sprinklers and drip-irrigation systems for orange groves in Tulkarm, Jaljalia and Gaza. This would both reduce fuel costs for pumping and increase water-use efficiency.
c. Construction of reservoirs to pool water for irrigation purposes.
d. Construction of cisterns for collecting rainfall, thus water gathered in winter could be stored for

Lejjun, Qasr Beshir excavations shed more light on life at Roman frontier posts

Text and photos
By Rami G. Khouri
Special to the Jordan Times

Situated 20 kilometres east of Karak, the fortress of Lejjun was one of the Roman Empire's strong military posts. Recent excavations at the site shed more light on Roman frontier fortification system from the 1st to the 6th century A.D. The writer reports on the findings in the following article — the second of a two-part series:

ANIMAL bones and the remains of carbonised seeds retrieved within the Roman legionary fortress at Lejjun show that the Roman/Byzantine soldiers' diet consisted mainly of barley, fruits and vegetables, sheep, goat, cattle, pigs and chicken. All were cultivated or domesticated by the soldiers, or by the inhabitants of the civilian settlement that existed just outside the fortress walls.

The soldiers supplemented their domesticated animals by hunting gazelle, birds, fish and freshwater crabs from the adjacent Wadi Lejjun stream.

Excavations in and around the principia, or headquarters, building in the centre of the fortress revealed more of the sacred shrine of the legionary standards.

Every Roman legion had a legionary standard, a gold foil-decorated pole topped by a bronze eagle. The standard was a sacred object that was actually worshipped by the troops. If a legion's standard was lost in battle, the entire legion was disgraced.

In front of the principia, the leg-

ionary headquarters building at the intersection of the two main streets within the fortress. Dr. Parker's team uncovered the groma, or monumental entry building into the principia.

The groma was decorated with engaged columns on the inner face of its four triple-gate archway entrances, or tetrapylon (similar to the tetrapylon at Jerash, at the intersection of the main colonnaded street, the cardo, and the North Decumanus).

The external east face of the principia facing the groma was also cleared, and showed the use of decorative plaster on chert blocks to make them resemble limestone blocks used in other parts of the building.

The excavations this year at Qasr Beshir also provide new information that helps reconstruct the Roman frontier defences.

At 56 metres square, Qasr Beshir is much smaller than the Lejjun fortress, and is known as a castellum. A Latin inscription still in its original place in the lintel over the main entrance confirms that

Qasr Beshir was built in 306 A.D., and is therefore contemporary with Lejjun.

It had always been assumed to house an auxiliary unit, but only this year did excavations confirm that it was garrisoned by a cavalry unit of perhaps 100-150 troops.

A team headed by Vincent Clark opened four trenches at Qasr Beshir, to investigate a stable, an interior cistern, the central courtyard and a building in the vici, or civilian settlement outside the fort's walls.

The fort is entered through a vaulted gateway which leads into the large central courtyard, which is surrounded on all four sides by two-storey rooms. The excavations showed that 22 of the 24 ground-floor rooms each had three mangers built into their back walls, but the upper-storey rooms did not have similar mangers. The upper rooms would have housed the troops.

"This leads us to believe that the ground-floor rooms were stables for horses, or possibly even camels," Dr. Parker said.

The evidence for camel cavalry units comes from camel bone remains excavated inside the stables, though textual evidence also attests to the use of camel cavalry in the Roman east.

This year's excavations also produced some Umayyad pottery and other artifacts inside Qasr Beshir, further substantiating post-Byzantine use of the area.



General view of interior of Qasr Beshir, looking towards the main doorway entrance in the west wall

U. S. agency approves test of antifrost microbe for plants

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for the first time has approved field tests of genetically altered bacteria that could prevent frost damage to plants.

The agency has authorised a California firm, Advanced Genetic Sciences, to conduct tests using two genetically engineered microbes on a small patch of strawberry blossoms in California. The microbes are altered strains of bacteria that occur naturally on plants.

The environmental agency's assistant administrator for pesticides and toxic substances, Jack Moore, said November 14 that the field tests will not result in any foreseeable adverse effects to human health or the environment.

"I am confident that EPA can safely and efficiently regulate pes-

ticide products of the new and growing biotechnology industry — an industry that promises to produce enormous benefits for society," he said.

Moore added that the genetically altered bacteria, which is expected to block frost formation by covering plant surfaces, "do not possess any unique pathogenic or growth characteristics and ... pose no threat to the environment."

Agency officials said biotechnology companies are doing research with gene-splicing techniques to produce pesticides, disease-resistant crops, new breeds of farm animals, microbes that eat oil spills and other products.

"A lot of research is being done with microorganisms that can degrade certain toxic materials so they can conceivably be used for waste disposal and waste purification," said Fred Betz, a biologist with the environmental agency's office of pesticide programmes. "Another large application for this type of technology involves altering microorganisms that are then used in fermentation systems to produce chemical products. The FDA (Food and Drug Administration) has approved a number of pharmaceuticals that have been derived using genetically altered bacteria."

Betz said that while research with genetically altered microbes has been performed in laboratories, the new technique to protect plants from frost represents the first time a living, genetically engineered bacteria would be released in the environment.

Moore emphasised that the agency has reviewed and approved 14 different microbial pesticides — the first being registered in 1948.

"Many of these pesticides are

quite common and some have been used around homes and gardens for years without any adverse effects," he said. "What is new is that this is the first time recombinant DNA technology has been used to produce a microbial pesticide."

"This technique is very much in the early developmental stages," Betz said. "But crop losses due to frost damage is a world-wide problem. So this is the kind of product, if it proves to be safe and effective, that can have enormous benefits."

Officials explained that there are natural organisms that live on plants and promote the formation of frost. These plant-associated bacteria ordinarily coat the surface of plants and produce a protective film of ice crystals. The bacteria to be tested are identical to the naturally-occurring species

except that a small amount of genetic material has been deleted. As a result, the altered bacteria are no longer able to produce a protein that promotes the formation of frost.

Scientists will spray the altered strains of bacteria on a small plot of 2,400 strawberry plants in the central coast area of California in late December or January. They expect the presence of the altered bacteria to prevent ice formation in temperatures as low as minus five degrees Celsius.

The experiment is scheduled to run a total of 42 days, followed by monitoring of the test site for several months thereafter. The treated plants and fruit will be destroyed after the experiment.

Jeremy Rifkin, President of the non-profit Foundation on Economic Trends, has criticised the experiment, claiming that the release of such microorganisms could

Winter is time to feast on snakes, puppies, exotic dishes in Taiwan

By Wendel Chang
The Associated Press

TAIPEI, Taiwan — The Chinese chefs here boast, can cook up a feast from anything that walks, swims or grows, and winter is the best season for gastronomic delights.

Although some of the more exotic foods can be made all year, winter is the time for snakes, bear paws, rats, puppies and monkeys, which join the more conventional meats, fish and vegetables on the menu.

Chinese chefs say their exotic, stewed or simmered for hours with herbs for soups, keep diners warm, men virile and malades away.

Snake meat, fried with vegetables or served as a soup, is considered good for relieving rheumatic pains, loosening phlegm and nourishing the blood.

Snake bile mixed with wine is said to improve eyesight, but possibly the most famous snake dish is Dragons and Tiger Locked in Battle.

It consists of three kinds of poisonous snakes stewed with a leopard and more than 20 spices, garnished with lemon leaves and chrysanthemum petals.

Not all animals needed for such culinary curiosities are readily available here. But when they are, sales are brisk.

Recently 12 Bengal tigers came on the market. Eight were slaughtered and their flesh and bones sold before a protest by animal-lovers and newspapers saved the remaining four.

The Chinese are a food-oriented society and cooking is something of an art. But exactly why they have an appetite for such unconventional cuisine is unclear.

Some say it's curiosity. Others say it's tradition, a belief that some animals have medicinal values.

Tiger meat, they believe, will make them courageous and strong, while tiger bones, soaked in wine, produce a tonic that supposedly cures rheumatism and internal injuries.

Wen Tang-Ching, once a toiling street fruit vendor, serves bandicoot rats at his popular restaurant, stewed or barbecued with his own secret formula of spices.

Wen, 63, buys the bandicoot rats from aborigines who catch them in the mountains where he says the rodents are free from diseases found in city rats.

The meat from bandicoot rats is nutritious, he said in an interview. But he said he has yet to serve another rodent dish that was popular more than a thousand years ago during China's Tang dynasty: Newborn rats stuffed with honey and plucked from the banquet table live.

Hsia Yun-yu, 78, a retired zoology professor and now a popular television and newspaper commentator on social affairs, links the Chinese taste for such uncommon meats to the endless civil wars that ravaged ancient China.

"The wars created poverty and when people are poor one of their first thoughts is for food," he said in an interview. "Through trials and tests of eating everything, they conceived the various dishes."

It is estimated there now are more than 5,000 different Chinese dishes, but the four great cuisines are said to come from five provinces: Shandong, Sichuan, Jiangsu, Zhejiang and Guangdong.

"You will never get bored eating here," said Earl Wieman, a 44-year-old American who has worked in Taiwan for 16 years.

Social commentators estimate that Taiwan's population of 19 million spends 60 billion Taiwan dollars (\$1.5 billion) annually on dining in restaurants.

To discourage such extravagant gluttony, an organisation of housewives, the Speciality Cooking Association, launched a campaign four years ago to convince diners to restrict meals to five dishes.

They called it "The Plum Flower Meal" after Taiwan's national flower that has five petals.

Ms. Lau Mai-Chun, chairwoman of the association, blames the failure on hosts who cling to the oriental desire to save face and continued to give lavish banquets for guests.

Space technology to be used to extract 4600-year-old air

By Dalia Balogh
The Associated Press

GIZA, Egypt — A team of Egyptian and American scientists is applying space technology in an attempt to extract 4,600-year-old air from a pit at the foot of the great pyramid of Cheops.

The team hopes to analyse the ancient air to learn more about the earth's atmosphere and discover how the ancient Egyptians preserved their possessions for thousands of years.

It is the first entry of the space age into archaeological work in history-rich Egypt where Westerners discovered most of the pharaonic tombs generations ago using picks and shovels and gave no thought about the dusty air trapped in them.

This project aims to collect untainted air in bottles developed by the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) for sampling the atmosphere of Mars. Monitoring sensors will be inserted into the pit at the same time, along with special cameras to take pictures, but there are no plans to excavate it until technology is developed to preserve whatever more substantial relics the pit may contain.

Archaeologists hope the pit contains one of the Pharaoh's boats.

Scientists have known about the rectangular pit since 1952, when archaeologists found it, and an identical one, while they were clearing rubble away from the south end of Cheop's pyramid. The pyramid is a mammoth stone structure that was built around 2650 B.C., the first and largest of the three great pyramids of Giza.

In 1954, beneath 41 huge limestone slabs, archaeologist Kamal Al Malakh uncovered one of Cheop's boats, still considered the oldest and best-preserved wooden bark ever found.

The second pit remained untouched, and only last summer did the idea arise of trying to extract the air while leaving the rest of the artifacts intact.

Hope that the pit is airtight is based on the way ancient Egyptians carefully filled cracks between slabs with gypsum. Workers present when the first pit was uncovered recalled a strong smell of cedar emanating from the wood of the ship.

"We hope the (second) pit is very well sealed," said Dr. Omar Al Arini, an Egyptian scientist and adviser to the government's antiquities authority. "The crucial part is to get this air using non-intrusive methods, without allowing any external factors to affect or change it. We'll use space-age technology to do it."

America's 'new Dr. Spock' concerned about working mothers

By Robert Basler
Reuters

NEW YORK — One of the United States' foremost experts on children says he finds it hard to accept the conventional view that America loves its babies, reverts its mothers and cherishes its families.

Dr. T. Berry Brazelton says the reality is that while more and more American children are brought up in homes with working mothers, the country lags far behind many others in the support it offers to parents with jobs.

The man who has been described as the "New Dr. Spock" is busy telling readers, viewers and congress that subsidised day-care and legislated four-month maternity leaves are long overdue.

"I'll just take one or two terrorists coming out of the present day-care system to make us realise we were fools not to spend a little more money on it," he warns.

In recent forays to Washington to testify before Congress, he says he found the Reagan administration unresponsive. The president, Brazelton says, "claims to be family-oriented, but I don't think he is."

Brazelton, a soft-spoken 67-year-old, is associate professor of paediatrics at Harvard Medical School. Parents have devoured his books, focusing on development rather than cold and colic, since they discovered his 1969 classic "Infants and Mothers."

As he boarded a plane recently he was recognised by a stewardess. "She asked if I wouldn't like to sit in first class, and I said 'sure'." She brought me a martini, then sat down beside me and said 'now, let's talk about toilet training'."

As feminism and economic necessity have combined to draw millions of mothers to the workplace — by 1990 an estimated 75 per cent of children will have both parents working outside the home — people are scrambling to learn the effects on their children.

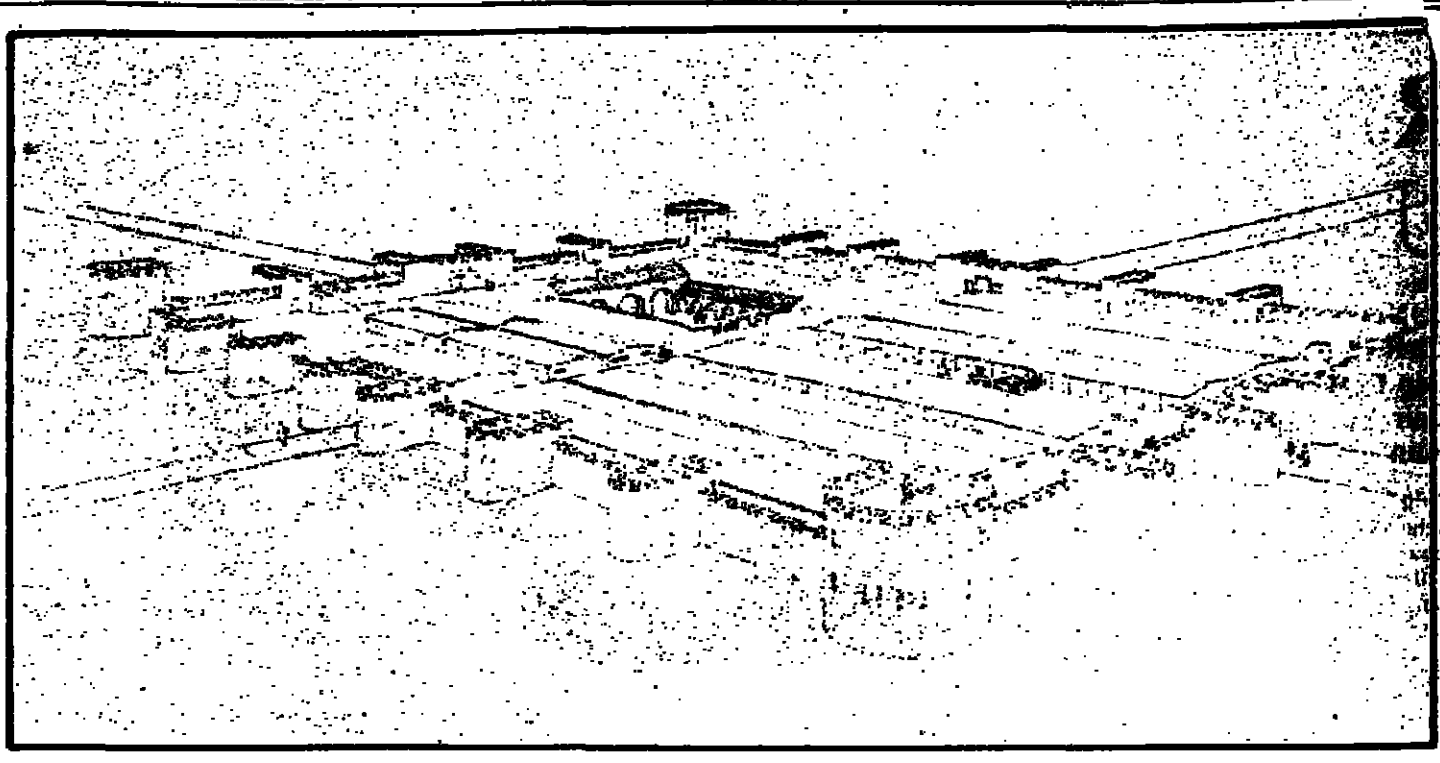
Brazelton has added his opinions to the debate in a new book called "Working And Caring," but he is the first to admit he cannot offer the definitive answers parents seem to want.

"There research hasn't taught us enough yet — the good research hasn't been done yet," he says. "Most of the research so far has been with a bias, either for or against."

He says he never knew any mothers who worked when he was growing up in Waco, Texas, and that his own wife stayed at home with their three daughters.

"My underlying message is that the mother should be with the child as long as she can," he says. Brazelton says he senses that two kinds of mothers are suffering — those who worked and felt guilty about it, and those who stayed home and wished they were back at work.

His new book tells the stories of



Reconstructed drawing of the Lejjun fortress

Most of the sites are small hill-top forts or watchtowers initially built in the Iron Age or the Nabataean period. Several dozen sites yielded stone tools, indicating use in the Palaeolithic and Neolithic periods of the Stone Age.

The deployment of the towers seems to differ during the Nabataean and Roman periods. The Nabataean forts radiated much further out into the eastern desert, reaching as far as the Wadi Bayir.

The Romans, however, seem to have stayed closer to their home bases represented by large fortresses such as Lejjun. Their forts and towers were clustered near the desert's edge, along the major wadis that were used as communication and invasion routes.

The Romans did not try to establish a physical presence far out into the desert, but instead relied on patrols of mounted cavalry such as those stationed at Qasr Beshir. In this respect, the Roman deployment of small forts and watchtowers resembles the system used in the Iron Age by the Edomites and Moabites of southern Jordan, who also stayed close to their heartland along the hills and mountains along the west half of modern Jordan.

The hilltop towers were all within signal range of one another: By using smoke signals or mirrors in daylight, and torches at night, soldiers in the towers could quickly pass on to one another warning signals of an impending attack from the desert. By signalling from one tower to the next, a message could be passed on along the entire length of the fortified frontier.

A simulated signalling experiment by Dr. Parker's team in 1982 showed that messages could be relayed over a distance of 15 kilometres in about 20 minutes. In some cases, forts and towers up to 15 kilometres apart could communicate directly and virtually instantaneously.

Dr. Parker and other scholars are still trying to determine precisely why the Emperor Diocletian fortified the south-eastern frontier zone around 300 A.D., and why this defensive system was suddenly dismantled two centuries later.

The initial build-up of the defences is thought to have been due to a change in the security situation in the area, with more attacks by Arab tribes from the eastern desert regions. Some of the Arab tribes may have formed political alliances that made them a greater threat to the settled towns and villages behind the Roman defence lines.

The widespread abandonment of the Roman/Byzantine forts in the 6th Century is more difficult to explain. All the forts studied to date were abandoned peacefully, probably for a combination of military and economic reasons, for there is no evidence of abandonment after military defeats.

The Emperor Justinian, more concerned with security problems in other parts of the empire, may have needed the troops formerly deployed at Lejjun and other fortresses in Jordan.

To maintain security in this area, he turned over primary responsibility for the defence of the south-eastern frontier to federated Arab tribes such as the Ghassanids, who successfully ensured the security of the area for about 50 years, between 530-580 A.D. Pulling out his own troops or simply demobilising some gar-

risons was probably also a major cost-cutting measure for the Emperor Justinian.

In the long-run, however, the move would contribute to a major turning point in the history of the area, and the world. For less than a hundred years later, a major new power would emerge from the Arabian Peninsula in the form of the Muslim Arab armies.

When the Muslims moved into the land of modern Jordan in the early 7th Century A.D., they found the former Roman legionary fortresses abandoned, and the area as a whole less well defended than it had been during the 4th, 5th and 6th Centuries.

They eventually defeated the Byzantine forces, and moved on to capture Damascus and establish the Umayyad dynasty in 650 A.D., ushering in the Islamic era that has defined the Middle East and North Africa for the past 14 centuries.

Dr. Parker's excavations this year, conducted in cooperation with the Jordanian Department of Antiquities and the American Centre for Oriental Research in Amman, were funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Geographic Society, the Dumbarton Oaks Centre for Byzantine Studies in Washington, D.C., the North Carolina State University Foundation, and some private donors. He plans to return to continue excavations and surface surveys in 1987.



North-west corner tower of the Lejjun, with its internal staircase partly visible

Real Madrid face stiff UEFA Cup test today

LONDON (R) — Real Madrid and AC Milan, who lifted soccer to new heights in the 1958 Champions' Cup final, may find reputations count for little in their European Football Union (UEFA) Cup third round first-leg ties Wednesday.

With the Champions and Cup Winners' competitions in cold storage until the new year, the focus of attention switches to the 16 teams battling for UEFA Cup quarter final places — and Real and AC Milan in particular.

In the 27 years since they produced that epic European Cup final in Brussels — Real winning by the odd goal in five after extra time — the two clubs have enjoyed mixed fortunes and only traces of their former greatness survive.

Real, six times champions of Europe and UEFA Cup holders, travel to West Germany where they face an exciting young Borussia Moenchengladbach side while the Milanese meet the well-disciplined Waregem in Belgium.

The Spaniards started the season in great style but have suffered a form slump in recent weeks and

a 3-2 defeat at Real Valladolid on Sunday suggests all is not well in the Madrid camp.

Emilio Butragueno, hailed as the new "Wonderboy" of Spanish football when he broke into the Real team two seasons ago, barely touched the ball at Valladolid, leaving his Mexican striking partner Hugo Sanchez to hold the attack together.

On paper, Real possess their strongest line-up for many years and there is no disputing the quality of players such as Butragueno, Sanchez, Jose Camacho, Antonio Maceda, Rafael Gordillo and Argentine Jorge Valdano.

But there is still a question mark over Real's character and Borussia, twice winners of the UEFA Cup in the 1970s, pose a major threat.

The West Germans will also be seeking revenge for their controversial defeat by Real in the

quarter-finals of the 1976 European Cup when Borussia were held 2-2 at home and went out on away goals after a 1-1 draw. Borussia still point to the fact they had two apparent goals disallowed in Madrid while Real's effort was hotly disputed.

Alen leads RAC rally

NOTTINGHAM, England (AP) — Markus Alen of Finland, driving a Works Lancia, held on to the lead in the Lombard RAC rally Tuesday when the race restarted after the overnight rest halt.

Britain's Tony Pond was second, with Alen's countryman and team-mate, Henri Toivonen, in third place.

Toivonen posted the fastest time on the day's first stage to Donington Park, recording two minutes, 15 secs for the 3.92-km circuit.

Alen was just a second slower with Londoner Pond in the MG Metro a further seven seconds behind.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Top seeds for World Cup chosen

ZURICH (R) — West Germany, France, Poland and Brazil join holders Italy and hosts Mexico as the top seeds in next month's draw for the World Cup finals. Each country will head one of the six four-team groups to be decided at the Dec. 15 draw in Mexico City. An International Football Federation (FIFA) official said Monday that while Italy and Mexico had automatic seeding, West Germany, Poland and European Champions France were seeded because they reached the semifinals of the 1982 Finals in Spain.

Moroccan voted Champion of Champions

PARIS (R) — Said Aouita, Morocco's Olympic 5,000 metres gold medalist, has been named Africa's Champion of Champions in an annual poll for the second time, the magazine Jeux D'Afrique said Tuesday. Aouita, who set world records over 1,500 and 5,000 metres this year, was the unanimous choice of 10 magazines, agencies and radio stations which cover pan-African sport, the magazine said. Aouita last won the award in 1983. Last year's winner was fellow Moroccan Nawal El Moutawakel, Olympic women's 400 metres hurdles champion.

49ers down Seahawks

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Joe Montana, intercepted twice in a nightmarish start, completed his first two passes of the second period on a 66-yard San Francisco touchdown drive and the 49ers posted an important 19-6 victory over the Seattle Seahawks in Monday night's National Football League game. With the victory, the defending Super Bowl Champions made their record 7-5. The 49ers are two games behind the Los Angeles Rams in the National Football Conference West. The Seahawks, 6-6, fell two games behind in the AFC West race.

IOC chief predicts no boycott in 1988

NEW YORK (R) — Juan Antonio Samaranch, president of the International Olympic Committee, predicted Monday that all of the Olympic movements communist nations would participate in the 1988 Olympics. "I'm quite optimistic that all of the socialist countries will take part in the Games," he said referring to both the Winter Olympics in Calgary, Canada and the Summer Olympics in Seoul, South Korea.

Rangers top Nottingham Forest

LONDON (R) — Two goals in the last two minutes gave Rangers a 3-1 win over Nottingham Forest Monday night and a home clash against Chelsea or Everton in the English League Cup quarter-finals. To add to Forest's misery, their England forward Peter Davenport was sent off for dissent late in the fourth round tie. The visitors were already upset because Terry Fenwick had shot Rangers ahead with a controversial eighth minute penalty. Nigel Clough equalised 10 minutes from time and a replay looked likely until Gary Bannister and John Byrne struck a goal apiece in the closing moments.

Czechs close stadium after brawl

VIENNA (R) — Czechoslovakia's Ice Hockey Union has fined Prerov Club and ordered its stadium closed until the end of the year after a brawl involving about 60 fans last month, an official newspaper reported. Svobodne Slovo, daily of the socialist party, said several people were injured and a bus damaged when fighting broke out between Prerov fans and those of rival second Czech division side Koprivnice on Oct. 27. Czechoslovakia's communist authorities, who early this year blamed sports fans' violence in the West on failure of the capitalist system to meet the people's social needs, have shown increasing concern over similar clashes in their own country.

Press pressure bugs McEnroe

MELBOURNE (R) — John McEnroe Tuesday denied a claim that he had assaulted an Australian reporter and complained he was hounded unfairly by journalists about his romance with actress Tatum O'Neal.

On a day when rain washed out play in the Australian Open, McEnroe said off-court pressures had contributed to his fall from the top of the men's tennis rankings and added that new stars like Boris Becker "had no idea what they were letting themselves in for."

"Tennis is not just about walking on court and winning or losing a match anymore. I feel sorry for what he (Becker) is going to go through," said McEnroe.

"Being a celebrity is like being raped," he added, brushing aside an Australian newsman's claims that McEnroe had pushed him over a chair in a hotel lobby and spat at a photographer.

"I moved the guy aside and all of a sudden it's like I've physically assaulted him and he's beat up," McEnroe said.

Reporter Geoff Easdown said he had earlier scuffled with the player after asking for a photo of McEnroe and O'Neal.

"He asked me to leave the hotel and when I refused and told him I was not going to be ordered around by him he began to push me," Easdown said. "He grabbed me by the throat and pushed me over a chair."

Photographer Mike Potter, who took pictures of the incident, said McEnroe followed him for several minutes, hurling abuse. "He was very rude and kept asking me why I didn't get another job. He spat at me and I spat back," Potter said.

McEnroe also became incensed at his press conference when asked by a Melbourne journalist whether he had married O'Neal, wearily denying it was true or that the actress was pregnant.

"I have to answer this question wherever I go," he said. "It is completely untrue, but it gets written so much people believe it."

Complaining of being hounded by the world's media, McEnroe said: "I have to handle 10 times the amount that the others are subjected to. This is a constant thing. It's out of control."

McEnroe said only Bjorn Borg, from whom he inherited the mantle as the world's most talented player, knew what he was going through. "He is the only one I can relate to because he is the only one who had to put up with as much."

Borg retired from tennis at 26, but McEnroe, who is the same age, said he had no plans to quit although he had no idea what lay

ahead. "I love the game. I'm not saying I'm going to retire. I'm just saying there are times it gets to you a lot more than others."

McEnroe, now ranked number two behind Ivan Lendl, said the attention surrounding his romance with O'Neal, daughter of film star Ryan O'Neal, had contributed to what he termed an off year.

"I've been happy with the way things have gone generally. It's just that I have not gotten the results in the tournaments," he said.

McEnroe said he had been plagued by nagging injuries, especially to his shoulder. "All the years I've played I've never really gotten into top physical shape and I've paid for it. This has been one of those times," he said.

He believed he could regain the top spot. "Maybe 1985 is over in terms of being number one. I don't know, but I want to get better."

He is chasing his first Australian crown. "I think I can win here if I prepare properly. I wouldn't have come if I didn't think I could win."

But he was not sure if the scrutiny and questioning was worth the trip. "It is not the end of the world if I don't win the Australian Open," he said.

Kuwait coach aims for 1990 World Cup

By Rory Channing
Kusar

KUWAIT — As soccer enthusiasts focus on the build-up to the 1986 World Cup in Mexico, flamboyant English coach Malcolm Allison has his sights fixed firmly on 1990.

Allison, one of Europe's most widely-travelled club coaches, arrived in Kuwait last June to take charge of the national side, ending a 12-year reign by Brazilian coaches.

Kuwait, once dubbed "Little Brazil" for the stylish play which took them to the 1982 World Cup finals, have since suffered serious setbacks both on and off the field.

The small independent state failed in its bid to reach Mexico next year, it has discarded three national coaches in as many years and last year it endured a stormy domestic season when referees went on strike over player and spectator violence.

Now the football federation is at the centre of a multi-million dollar scandal over alleged abuse of state funds.

But cigar-chomping Allison is unperturbed. He is on the lookout for new blood, saying he expects to have to start building a new side almost from scratch.

"The view of the federation is to

build a team for 1990 — for the World Cup, naturally," he told Reuters.

Allison's immediate goal is to build a side capable of regaining the Gulf Cup in Bahrain next March which would give Kuwait their fourth championship.

"From there, we go to the Asian Cup (in 1988) and Olympic Games (in 1990)," he says.

Allison's predecessor, Pereira Miguel, joined a growing list of Brazilians who have fallen foul of the increasingly competitive world of Arab football in the Gulf.

Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and Oman have also sacked Brazilian coaches in the past 18 months.

Allison has a clean record so far — 0-0 home draws against Egypt and World Cup hosts Mexico. Egypt failed to make the 1986 World Cup finals, but is highly rated in the Middle East.

He says the scandal embroiling the Kuwait Football Federation should pose no serious distraction to his players.

The federation's secretary-general, Mohammed Jassem, was convicted this month of embezzling \$253,400 by forging coaching contracts then pocketing the money paid out by the government.

The National Assembly, the only elected parliament in the Arabian peninsula, has called for

an urgent report on alleged malpractices within Kuwait's football and Olympic bodies.

The Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour, which oversees sports, earlier this year instructed the football federation to explain "financial improprieties" the tune of \$4.5 million in its latest accounts.

These included expenses of \$1.25 million and the cost of 40 return tickets to Rio De Janeiro for a training camp and tournament it says were never held. Allison is learning Arabic, although he envisages no big drawbacks over language as many Kuwaitis speak English.

"I've never had any fear of working with foreign players," says Allison, who has also coached in Turkey and Portugal.

Kuwait, like its Gulf neighbours, pumped huge sums of money into soccer in the heyday of the 1970s oil boom, and Allison rates the superlatives and the warm, dry climate as distinct advantages to a national coach.

He says he is also encouraged by the Kuwaitis' appetite for the game. "They're very enthusiastic about soccer, and I hope to build a good side here."

Khan wins fifth World Squash title

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — Jahangir Khan won the World Open Individual Squash Championship final and became the first player to win the title five times Monday when he beat Ross Norman of New Zealand 9-4, 4-9, 9-5, 9-1.

Third place Gavain Bruns of England had beaten Glen Brumby of Australia 9-7, 9-2, 9-5.

Jahangir Khan, the 22-year-old Pakistani, achieved a record of five world squash titles by beating Norman, the second seed. There were, however, some worrying minutes among the 89 minutes that it took the Pakistani to end a spirited challenge.

Just past the 70 minutes mark, Norman looked to have a real chance when he came from 0-6 to 5-6 in the third game and was still somehow matching the champion for pace.

"If I could have just kept the match going then, I could have

beaten him because I was not all that tired," said Norman. "That is the best I have ever done against him and I think I can do it again."

"I would like to congratulate him," said Jahangir. "It was one of the best matches I have played around the world anywhere."

The Egyptian crowd clearly agreed with the champion's sentiments and often chose to cheer the European on, although they noisily acknowledged their fellow Muslim's fantastic achievement at the end.

Jahangir's victory means he remains unbeaten in four years and seven months although the second game that he dropped to Norman prevented him from repeating last year's achievement of becoming the only player ever to win the title without losing a game. It was still the first that he has dropped in fully seven months.

He is still not 22 until next

month and although he concentrates much of his energy on the lucrative American hardball version of squash, he is still able to keep sufficiently ahead of the field to survive sudden and surprising challenges like this.

It was in fact his toughest challenge since the Australian Chris Dittmar came within a point of going two games ahead in the Pakistan Open final in Karachi last year.

Norman only started to falter and grow tired after three long rallies all ended in lets at 5-6 in the third game.

Norman then played a backhand sideball which went down, and at 5-7 was for the first time having to run all over the court as Jahangir began to drop him short and volley him long to the back alternately.

Losing those tiring points began to turn the match, and Jahangir won it with a high forehead volley kill and a delicate little drop shot which tickled round from the side to the front wall.

In the third game, Jahangir rapidly moved to 6-0 before he was briefly halted. The first prize of \$8,500 was soon his after that, and he was embracing his coaching cousin Rahmat Khan in both celebration and relief.

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Abdallah, behind Alia office

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling	1.4580/90	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3778/83	Canadian dollars
	2.5685/95	West German marks
	2.8915/23	Dutch guilders
	2.1060/70	Swiss francs
	51.97/52.02	Belgian francs
	7.8250/300	French francs
	1736/1737	Italian lire
	201.58/68	Japanese yen
	7.7360/410	Swedish crowns
	7.7045/95	Norwegian crowns
	9.2885/935	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	331.70/332.20	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices dropped following profit-taking after the recent sharp advance and at 1530 GMT the FTSE 100 share index was down 21.9 at 1,433.6.

After Monday's merger news Habitat Motocare fell 18p to 548 while British Home Stores eased 11p to 398.

Allied-Lyons was 2p lower at 293 after half year results. ICI fell 11p to 719. General Accident fell 18p to 718 on market rumours of a share placing, while other insurances and banks declined. Gold shares lost ground, government bonds edged higher and North Americans were mixed.

United Biscuits, in merger talks with Imperial Group, pared Monday's advance by 10p to 256 while Imperial rose 5p to 234. After interim results Rothmans fell 6p to 121.

Boots lost 10p to 262 and others to show notable falls included BTR down 12p to 378 and Thorn EMI down 13p to 404. Pilkington gained 8p to 316 and P and O rose 5p to 445. Lloyds Bank declined 12p to 502 in banks while Britoil eased 5p to 235 in lower oils.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, NOV. 27, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: New ideas and benefits through changes in personalities or persons with whom you deal can bring some intermittent benefits so be wise and wide awake to changes that are pending.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Look into various sources for the new ideas that can be helpful to you and your partners. Be careful in motion today.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Now that the moon is full it is a good time to make new arrangements of all kinds, so get advice from the experts.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Contact those you seldom see and come to a far better understanding with them now.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Be more considerate of co-workers and gain greater cooperation. A good day to start regular health treatments.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) If you are frank and direct with your good friends, they will help you to get started on creative matters you have in mind.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Be sure to plan your time and activities wisely since interruptions could arise in both business and home life.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Study routines and see if a little trip would not be wise that could bring you data you need or new contacts of worth.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Get your duties handled in such a way that they are soon behind you and you can gain benefits.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You may feel that an associate is not handling a mutual project well; sit down together and come to an understanding.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You have to be very tactful if you are thinking of using new angles to gain your way in some alliance.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You can be with those who can assist you in putting across some new plan you have in mind.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) If you cannot be at home, at least do what your family desires of you today and improve your family status.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be apt to have many changes occur during the lifetime and should be taught early to be alert to new opportunities for advancement and seize them quickly. Teach to complete one enterprise before starting another one. Give an excellent education.

THE Daily Crossword by H. Karmit Jackson

ACROSS

1. Mex. dish
2. Tough's doll
3. Tag on
4. Duet
5. Oil-rich
6. Winter need
7. World word
8. Nostra
9. Jazz
10. Flavored
11. 60's fashion
12. Steakhouse
13. Mark's dawdler
14. Alternative
15. So long
16. Wage payer
17. Rambler
18. Has influence
19. Wood holder
20. Russia's neighbor
21. McCarthy of
22. Great review
23. Clam symbol
24. Spruce up
25. Come to rest
26. Rubbing lotion
27. Relative of
28. 80's
29. Dry, as wine
30. Burden
31. Table staple
32. Office helper
33. Glimpse
34. 50's pat
35. 60's weapon
36. Fast name
37. In song
38. Fish on patch
39. Tied net
40. Historic
41. Low joint
42. Down
43. Chowder meat
44. Cider prefix
45. Old cow
46. Place
47. Singing group
48. Overbearing
49. Small length

DOWN

1. 80's
2. Tough's doll
3. Tag on
4. Duet
5. Oil-rich
6. Winter need
7. World word
8. Nostra
9. Jazz
10. Flavored
11. 60's fashion
12. Steakhouse
13. Mark's dawdler
14. Alternative
15. So long
16. Wage payer
17. Rambler
18. Has influence
19. Wood holder
20. Russia's neighbor
21. McCarthy of
22. Great review
23. Clam symbol
24. Spruce up
25. Come to rest
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37. In song
38. Fish on patch
39. Tied net
40. Historic
41. Low joint
42. Down
43. Chowder meat
44. Cider prefix
45. Old cow
46. Place
47. Singing group
48. Overbearing
49. Small length

Yesterday's Puzzle Solvers:

1. NODS 2. BATA 3. COW 4. EPIS 5. WOLIN 6. AWAY 7. SCIRRE 8. ANODYNES 9. BORDA 10. DRAN 11. TORD 12. SMIRG 13. ANIA 14. ANEAA 15. DOUNI 16. VIC 17. RAINBOW 18. KISTONE 19. HOMILIES 20. REPUR 21. AIXIS 22. DRANIA 23. ETRE 24. RENIT 25. ORNOP 26. REIS 27. LIRIS 28. FAMA 29. SISTE

51. Wed 52. Sci-fi weapon 53. Post 54. A Tamer 55. Prayer and 56. Part 57. Galic equal 58. Function

USSR announces 3.8% growth target for 1986

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union Tuesday announced its economic growth targets for 1986, the first full year of the new five-year plan with which Kremlin leader, Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev, has pledged to modernise the economy.

Mr. Nikolai Talyzin, appointed state planning chief last month, told the Supreme Soviet (parliament) that the plan allowed for growth in national income of 3.8 per cent next year compared with an expected 3.5 per cent in 1985.

National income is broadly equal to Gross National Product in a Western economy. The target in the 1981-1985 five-year plan was a compound 18 per cent — requiring slightly lower annual growth than that planned for next year.

Mr. Talyzin said industrial output was expected to rise 4.3 per cent next year compared with a planned 3.9 per cent in 1985. He said increased productivity would be the backbone of growth.

In keeping with Mr. Gorbachev's modernisation drive, the 1986 plan concentrates resources on key industries such as machine-building, Mr. Talyzin said.

Western economists said this meant the leadership was stressing the need to replace ageing plant with the latest equipment and technology.

Mr. Talyzin said industry ministries were under orders to increase efficiency and save raw materials and energy. He gave figures for expanded agricultural output

in all areas but did not disclose the key grain target.

Grain production has fallen well below the state target since 1978. The U.S. Department of Agriculture has estimated this year's Soviet harvest at 190 million tonnes — higher than in 1984 but still requiring large hard-currency imports.

Mr. Talyzin criticised the oil and steel industries for failing to meet targets and said the oil industry would be expected to produce 616.7 million tonnes in 1986.

He said this would be 18.7 million tonnes above the expected output this year — meaning that oil output in 1985 would be well below last year's 613 million tonnes.

The Soviet Union is the world's largest oil producer but a decline in production began in late 1983 and economists say huge investments in the biggest fields of Western Siberia are needed to maintain output.

Capital investment by the state would grow by 8.2 per cent with priority going to machine-building, he said.

A state defence official, Mr. Viktor Demsev, said that military spending would comprise 4.6 per cent of the 1986 budget.

He gave a figure of 19.06 billion roubles (\$23 billion) for defence spending next year, almost exactly the same as in 1985.

Western economists say the figure is greatly understated and the Soviet Union spends more of its Gross National Product on defence than the United States.

Yamani urges cooperation to prevent oil price fall

KUWAIT (AP) — Saudi Arabia was reported Tuesday to have warned that it will not abide by the OPEC pricing and production system unless all other members of the world oil cartel did the same.

Saudi Oil Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani was quoted as telling the Kuwait newspaper Al Rai Al Am that all 13 member states of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) "must cooperate" to uphold the OPEC decrees on prices and production quotas.

Sheikh Yamani, whose country is the world's largest exporter of crude oil, told the Kuwaiti paper that the price per barrel would drop to \$20 in the absence of such cooperation.

Cooperation of oil-producing countries outside OPEC was also necessary to stop the decline, he said.

"I hope oil-producing countries whether inside or outside OPEC commit themselves to the (OPEC-decreed) prices," he said. "If such adherence prevails, the prices will remain in good shape. But if the situation became plagued with anarchy and lack of cooperation, then I expect the price of oil to drop to \$20 a barrel."

The interview was published less than a fortnight before the OPEC ministerial conference, scheduled for Dec. 7 in Geneva.

The OPEC ministers last met in October, when they left pricing and production structures unchanged, as the winter season improved demand and buoyed up the deteriorating prices on the free spot market.

But United Arab Emirates Oil Minister Mansur bin Zayed said recently that the October meeting ended with an understanding that the situation had turned into a "free for all" for the OPEC member countries on pricing and production.

Saudi Arabia has been selling quantities of its oil at "netback prices" which are related to the price of refined products on the market and translate into a small discount below the OPEC-decreed \$28 a barrel for the light Arabian crude.

The kingdom also has raised its daily production rate close to the 4.35 million barrel quota set by OPEC. It thus shed its role as "swing partner" — decreasing its own production level with a view to stabilising prices in a glutted market.

Sheikh Yamani told the paper that the Arab oil exporters of the Gulf region have been "cooperating" in their adherence to the OPEC rules on pricing and production.

He was obviously referring to Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the UAE, Qatar, and possibly Iraq.

GATT commences annual session amid warning of disastrous trends

GENEVA (Agencies) — The world trade organisation GATT has opened its week-long annual session with a chilling warning that the global trade system may be heading for disaster.

Chairman Felipe Jaramillo told representatives from the 90 signatory nations to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) the trading system had been seriously undermined by ill-advised policies and a growing crisis in confidence.

"We have no excuses for being unaware of the most recent trends in trade policy... towards protectionism, subsidy and managed trade," the Colombian said in his opening address.

Latest data, he commented, listed almost 100 export restraint arrangements negotiated bilaterally or by trade sectors outside the GATT, which sets the rules for the bulk of world trade.

"If left to run their course, present economic and political trends would be likely to have disastrous consequences," he added.

GATT members are this week facing a potentially damaging showdown over new multilateral talks to stem protectionism, an issue that has pitted the United States against a key bloc of developing countries, notably Argentina, Brazil and India.

They must decide whether to start the procedure for major new negotiations as early as next year — sought by the Reagan administration — by setting up a preparatory committee.

Mr. Jaramillo warned the decision "will inevitably have crucial implications for the future of the trading system."

The business world, he declared, was waiting for the outcome of this session with more concern than ever.

At the heart of the row over the new round, the eighth since the GATT was signed in 1947, is the question of services.

Washington, in an effort to blunt protectionist demands at home amid a projected record \$150 billion trade shortfall, has made its drive for a new round a

key policy issue.

But it also wants trade in sophisticated services such as banking and telecommunications, which it says account for two thirds of American jobs, to be included in the negotiations.

This has sparked bitter protests from Third World countries terrified that their fledgling service sectors would not survive the ensuing assault from competitors abroad.

Heavily dependent on exports of traditional merchandise for their income, they challenge the U.S. assumption that services fall under GATT's auspices and demand that the body first deal with correcting imbalances in goods trade, its original brief.

Brazil and India have gone as far as saying the GATT would have to be rewritten if members wanted services to be tackled.

Both sides appeared as entrenched as ever Monday night, U.S. trade envoy, Mr. Richard Murphy, pronounced the inclusion of services essential while Brazil Ambassador Paulo Nogueira Batista was adamantly opposed.

If necessary, Mr. Murphy told reporters, the U.S. would force a vote to get the preparatory committee under way.

But trade officials caution that such a move would violate a long-standing principle of deciding by consensus and could cause a serious rift among the organisation's members.

In his speech, Mr. Jaramillo described as worrying "the inertia of trade policy makers in the face of an impending crisis."

He warned that today's economic outlook was far less encouraging than a year ago when world trade grew by a record nine per cent. GATT now expected 1985 trade volume to be less than three per cent above last year's, he said.

Growth in the U.S., Japan and parts of South East Asia, the driving force behind last year's figures, had slowed down more than expected with little compensating improvement elsewhere.

"This suggests a serious deterioration in the health of the international trading system," he said. "Our role in GATT is to ensure that this tendency is reversed, and reversed quickly."

Protectionism could resurface, U.S. officials warn

A senior U.S. official said Tuesday that President Reagan has deflected protectionist sentiment in the United States with a package of economic measures but new pressures to restrict imports could emerge next year.

Mr. Bruce Smart, under secretary of commerce, told reporters that congressional elections in November next year may lead to new pressures for trade restrictions to protect American industry from foreign competition.

"I think protectionists have not gone away," he said in a satellite television press conference from Washington with journalists in Hong Kong, Tokyo, Seoul, Manila and Singapore.

He said new pressures could arise if measures to combat unfair trade practices and reduce the U.S. trade deficit do not produce adequate results.

Mr. Reagan in September announced plans for a "war chest" of \$300 million to help U.S. exporters and set up a special group to fight unfair trade practices.

The moves followed a meeting of the Group of Five major industrial nations — the U.S., Japan, West Germany, Britain and France — which led to an agreement to help lower the value of the dollar.

Mr. Smart said Mr. Reagan recognised that the strength of the dollar was probably the largest single cause of the U.S. trade deficit.

The dollar's sharp fall since September on foreign exchange mar-

kets "is one factor that has helped calm down Congress a little bit," he said.

World accord urged to freeze trade barriers

Meanwhile, a new study urged the administration of President Reagan to exert efforts to get international agreement on a temporary ban against new barriers to world trade in services.

Such trade is now estimated to be worth \$400 to \$500 billion a year.

It was the main conclusion in a study carried out by Helena Stalson for the National Planning Association, a private, non-political body run by trustees from American business, labour and farm interests.

Increased U.S. exports of services would reduce the U.S. deficit in world trade.

The study points out that Third World countries want to develop their own services, to promote the free flow of labour, and to keep control of multinational companies operating on their soil.

To provide the time for each of the 90 governments to decide what it wants and is ready to talk about and to prevent actions that would set back the whole undertaking, it proposed two interim steps:

— A standstill accord on new restrictive measures for two or three years.

— A system for mediating international disputes on service trading.

Mexico to negotiate entry into GATT

In a related trade event, Mexico has announced it will negotiate entry into GATT.

President Miguel De La Madrid said membership was essential to give Mexico a voice in international trade negotiations and counter a weakening foreign trade position. Mexico is the largest non-communist economy outside the 90-member body.

ADB approves \$137.5 m loans

MANILA (AP) — The Asian Development Bank (ADB) announced Tuesday the approval of \$137.4 million in loans to finance development projects in Malaysia, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

Three of the loans, totalling \$87.4 million are to go to Malaysia to finance agricultural development projects in the states of Perlis and Sarawak, the bank said. Pakistan is to receive a \$30 million loan to build farm-to-market roads while the Sri Lankan government will receive \$20 million for lending to development finance institutions, the bank added.

The loans to Malaysia have 20-year repayment periods with annual interest rates of 9.65 per cent, while the loan to Sri Lanka is repayable over 15 years with an annual interest rate of 9.65 per cent, the bank said.

European Community agrees trade offer to Mediterranean countries

BRUSSELS (R) — European Community (EC) foreign ministers Monday agreed measures designed to guarantee access of products from southern Mediterranean states after Spain and Portugal join the group next year, senior officials said.

Mr. Claude Cheysson, EC commissioner in charge of relations with Mediterranean countries, said the three-year debate on how to maintain politically-sensitive trade ties with countries of the southern Mediterranean had been brought to a successful end.

Although the accord will rein in a further expansion of Mediterranean farm exports to the EC, it largely meets French demands for continued access, diplomats said.

France, the main EC trader with the region, has long argued that trade curbs could jeopardise political stability in the Mediterranean.

Mr. Cheysson told reporters that the trade accord sets export quotas for most sensitive farm exports including wine, citrus, olive oil, fruits and vegetables.

Commission officials hope it will be accepted by Mediterranean countries before the Iberian states join the Community on Jan. 1.

Under the current system, sales are free of quantitative restrictions and benefit from reduced customs duties.

The new quotas, set to match average annual sales between 1981 and 1985, will be let into the EC on the same conditions as competing goods from Spain and

Portugal, Mr. Cheysson said.

Customs duties on the quotas will be gradually eliminated over a 10-year period to keep pace with the tariff cuts negotiated in membership negotiations with the new Iberian member states and to maintain traditional sales, he said.

Monday's agreement was reached after Italy, which is exposed to competition from the southern Mediterranean, abandoned its earlier opposition to the trade offer.

The negotiations will involve Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt, Israel, Lebanon, Yugoslavia and Turkey.

The EC imports 56 per cent of Morocco's total farm sales, 57 per cent of Israel's, half of Cyprus total farm production and 47 per cent of Tunisia's olive oil output, officials said.

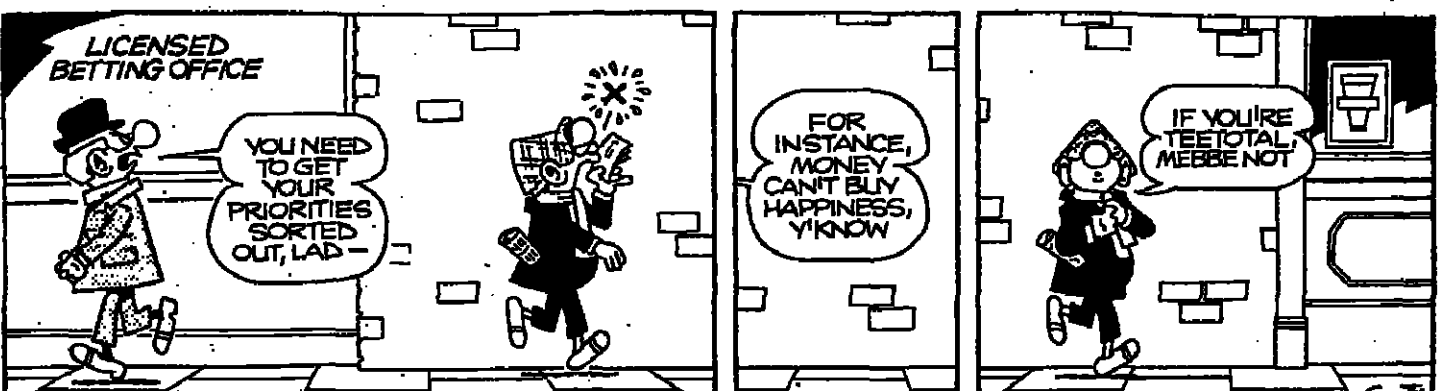
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF, By Harris



JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LITAP

TUSIE

JITNEC

SPRAYT

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

ANSWER: THE _____ OF _____

Yesterday's Jumble: KHAKI HARRY QUEASY TUMULT Answer: What a belly laugh is — A "MIRTH" QUAKE

Soviet politburo praises superpower summit results

Moscow repeats call for ban on space weapons

MOSCOW (R) — The ruling Soviet politburo has praised the results of last week's Geneva summit but pointed to continuing differences between the Soviet Union and the United States by repeating Moscow's call for a ban on space weapons.

The politburo said Monday the meeting between Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and President Ronald Reagan "marked the beginning of a dialogue with a view to achieving changes for the better in U.S.-Soviet relations and the world as a whole."

In a communiqué marked by generally positive wording, the politburo said it was extremely important that the superpowers had declared that a nuclear war should never be fought and that neither country sought military superiority over the other.

But the 12-man ruling body, headed by Mr. Gorbachev, also said drastic cuts in nuclear weapons required a ban on space weapons — a statement which reaffirmed Soviet opposition to Mr. Reagan's proposals for a space-based anti-missile system.

Mr. Gorbachev, although he has had a busy foreign affairs schedule since he took power last March, is faced with vexing problems in sectors such as agriculture and oil and has made economic progress a priority for his administration.

Western economists say he has pinned his hopes not on fun-

damental reforms but rather on making the centrally planned system work better, for example by cutting red tape and raising productivity, notoriously low in the Soviet Union.

A significant step was taken last week when five ministries concerned with food were merged into one unit and a Gorbachev ally from his home region of Stavropol in southern Russia, Vsevolod Murakhovsky, was appointed a supreme for agriculture.

The politburo, which was holding its first session since the summit, said: "There are no contradictions which would inevitably doom the Soviet Union and the United States to confrontation, let alone war."

It said the summit's results should be used to speed up progress at the U.S.-Soviet arms control talks in Geneva and added: "The long-term significance of the Geneva meeting will show itself in concrete practical actions."

A politburo report appeared on Soviet front pages Tuesday, while the Defence Ministry daily gave a more guarded assessment of the Geneva summit.

Krasnaya Zvezda (Red Star),

organ of the armed forces, said in a front-page editorial that the Geneva meeting between Mr. Gorbachev and Mr. Reagan had improved chances for "a return to détente."

The editorial borrowed several phrases from previous official statements on the meeting, including Mr. Gorbachev's Geneva press conference, the joint U.S.-Soviet statement after the summit, last Thursday's Warsaw Pact meeting in Prague and Monday's politburo session.

But the newspaper, which tends to represent the conservative view of military men on defence matters, did not repeat the formulation indicating U.S. and Soviet arms control proposals have something in common.

Monday's politburo report was one of the most positive Kremlin assessments to date of the summit. The Soviets usually contend that U.S. arms plans have no merit and are one-sided.

Echoing the Prague meeting at which Mr. Gorbachev briefed his Warsaw Pact allies on the summit last Thursday, Krasnaya Zvezda concluded that "on the whole, the results of the (Geneva) meeting... create more favourable possibilities for an improvement of the international situation, for a return to détente."

But it laid heavy stress on the need to prevent the development of space weapons, a major point of

disagreement at the Geneva arms control talks.

This was also a strong point in the politburo report, indicating that Moscow is not going to drop its key demand at the arms-control negotiations.

The Soviets have said that forbidding research, development, and deployment of space weapons should be the main goal of the Geneva arms talks.

The politburo said the course of U.S.-Soviet relations would be determined by arms-control questions, including space weapons. It contended that the Geneva summit "reaffirmed convincingly the correctness" of Soviet proposals for a 50 per cent cut in strategic weapons and a ban on space weapons.

The official news agency TASS said the politburo "fully approved" the results of the Geneva summit, including the joint statement issued by Mr. Reagan and Mr. Gorbachev and the agreement on cultural, educational and scientific exchanges.

The editorial in Krasnaya Zvezda seemed intended to lay down a firm political line for the Soviet Armed Forces to follow after the Geneva summit.

Although the military has a strong say in Soviet policy-making, the Communist Party is always accorded supremacy in public and the armed forces are sworn to follow its political line.

'U.S. warned airports of possible hijack in Mediterranean area'

ATHENS (Agencies) — The U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) told airports all over the world last week that a hijacking might be imminent, and that it would probably take place in the Mediterranean area, the governor of Athens airport said Tuesday.

George Papadimitropoulos told Reuters that he had passed this warning on to all foreign airlines using the airport, and they had tightened security.

This was one reason Greek officials did not think guns used to hijack an Athens-Cairo flight to Valetta on Saturday night were taken aboard in Athens.

Mr. Papadimitropoulos, in a telephone interview with Reuters, said he would press for a joint investigation by all countries concerned into the hijacking, which ended with the deaths of 60 people when Egyptian commandos stormed the plane at Valetta airport.

"I don't accuse anybody. I just want to find out what has happened," he said.

He added that since a major war between Greece and the United States about Athens airport security in June — which followed the hijacking of a TWA flight from Athens to Rome — surveillance had been greatly increased.

A fence round the airport had been rebuilt, the number of security police had been increased by 250 to 750 and they were being trained in accordance with FAA and International Air Transport Association (IATA) recommendations, he said.

President Ronald Reagan dealt a heavy blow to Greek tourism when he advised Americans after the June hijacking to avoid Athens airport. The advice was withdrawn a few weeks later after security was stepped up.

Meanwhile, Greek officials said they had questioned a Syrian passport-holder who came to Greece on Sunday and said on hearing of the previous night's hijack: "I wanted to be in there."

Kostas Tsimas, secretary-general of the Public Order Ministry, told Reuters the man, who said he was a seaman from Tunisia and seemed to be mentally unbalanced, begged airport police to arrest him, saying he would be killed if he went to Syria.

The police had not formally arrested him, and Tsimas said that when he was last informed of the man's whereabouts, he was still at the airport transit lounge.

Greek officials said the man's statements were being treated with scepticism.

Two ministers and the Athens airport commander in statements said security at the Athens airport is up to the highest international standards.

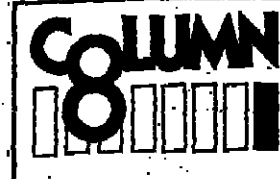
"I'm almost certain" that the hijackers' weapons did not pass through the security checks at Athens, said Athanasios Tsouras, deputy minister of the Interior and Public Order.

Mr. Papadimitropoulos, in an American Television interview, said, "I strongly believe that it is impossible their guns and hand grenades came from Athens."

Tsouras did not rule out the possibility that the hijackers might have had a "collaborator" in Cairo and that the weapons and ammunition had been placed aboard the airliner in Cairo.

Egypt has contended that the airliner and its passengers were checked meticulously before it left Cairo for Athens. The Greeks claim that the passengers went through five inspections before boarding the aircraft.

"Security measures at Athens airport correspond to the highest



Egyptian gets life sentence for murder

GRAZ (R) — An Austrian jury sentenced a 26-year-old Egyptian to life imprisonment for killing two people in a Graz nightclub with a knife last February. Ahmad Saleh fatally stabbed a hostess at the "Eden Club" who refused his demand to hand over money, police said. The club owner later died of knife wounds, while a second hostess remains crippled from wounds in her legs. Saleh, who confessed to the crime, was found guilty of murder, attempted theft and inflicting serious injury. His accomplice Ashour Aly, a 27-year-old Egyptian, was given a four-year jail sentence for attempted robbery.

7000 donate corneas in donation campaign

DHAKA (R) — Thirty-five of Bangladesh's leading journalists, poets, painters and writers have promised to donate corneas posthumously to mark the first anniversary of an organ donation campaign. After signing organ bequests at a simple ceremony, they appealed to all educated people to "leave behind your corneas for other people to see the light of the earth when you will no longer need them." The campaign was organised last year by Swandhani, an organisation of doctors and medical students. Swandhani official Motilal Aich told Reuters 7,000 Bangladeshis had offered to donate their corneas in the past 12 months. He said during the year 89 people had regained their sight through corneal transplants in three hospitals. "But we have to go still a far way because the country has 350,000 known sufferers," Aich said.

Nurse who hid heroin in bra gets 25 years

BANGKOK (R) — A second Australian nurse who tried to smuggle heroin to Australia in her brassiere and panties was jailed for 25 years Tuesday. Bangkok criminal court officials said. The court handed down its sentence after Kerry Anne Morrison, 28, of Sydney, pleaded guilty to the charges. Another Sydney woman, Karen Marie Peisley, 27, who was arrested on the same charges, was jailed for 25 years last week. The two women were arrested on Sept. 27 at Bangkok airport with 1.6 kilograms of top grade heroin while preparing to board a plane for Sydney, according to the public prosecutor.

Speaker cries fowl over parliamentary feathers

CANBERRA (R) — Attendants removed a man dressed as a chicken from the government front bench in Australia's Lower House of parliament. The man, barefoot and fully feathered, gave several audible clucks before acting deputy speaker Allan Rocher asked: "could we have the offending person removed?" A local newspaper identified the fowl impersonator as opposition member Bruce Goodluck, noted for making bird noises during debates. Attendants said they were told not to divulge the chicken's identity.

British TV scoops Emmy Awards

NEW YORK (R) — British television programmes scooped four out of five top international "Emmy" Awards, with Sir David Attenborough receiving a special citation for his nature documentaries. Attenborough has won acclaim on U.S. television in recent years for award-winning series such as Life On Earth and the Living Planet. The U.S. academy of television arts and sciences presented him with a special award for "enriching world-wide viewers with an enlightened view of the world we inhabit." The British winners in the regular categories were: Documentary: Granada Television for "28 Up"; Performing arts: BBC for Omnibus: The Treble. Popular arts: Central Independent TV for Spitting Image. Children's: Tyne Tees Television for Supergran. The award for drama went to the West German producers of the TV version of "Das Boot," a chronicle of a German submarine during World War II. The winners were Bavaria Atelier and Westdeutscher Rundfunk and Süddeutscher Rundfunk. The winners were selected from 166 entries from 22 countries. The United States makes its domestic Emmy Awards separately.

Colombia to reconstruct areas damaged by volcano

BOGOTA (R) — Officials have studied ways to reconstruct areas in central Colombia devastated by a volcanic eruption earlier this month which killed about 22,000 people.

President Belisario Betancur Monday night declared a 35-day economic and social emergency aimed mostly at rebuilding areas in the departments of Tolima and Caldas, affected by the eruption of the Nevado Del Ruiz volcano on Nov. 13.

The emergency decree created a reconstruction fund and Mr. Betancur used special executive powers to appoint a seven-member commission to oversee the task of bringing the stricken region back to life.

Fund General Manager Pedro Gomez Barrero, a professional urban planner, told reporters Monday the government was working on establishing priorities for reconstruction. His main concern now was to provide shelter and work for thousands left homeless.

The eruption, among the worst this century, sent torrents of mud and rocks down the volcano's rugged slopes, wiping the town of Armero off the map and killing an estimated 22,000 people.

Press reports said the village of Guayabal, eight kilometres north of the town's mud-covered ruins, was most likely to be chosen as the site for a "new Armero."

Twelve days after the disaster, newspapers are still publishing many photographs of people lost when the sea of mud crashed into the town, 100 kilometres north west of Bogota.

A television broadcast Sunday from Bogota, Mexico, Miami, New York and Los Angeles raised some \$32 million for the 4,500 survivors of Armero and 320,000 people living in other areas affected by the eruption.

Maj. Sergio Alonso Ortiz, the top military official in Guayabal, said 464 families — roughly 2,700 people — who survived the disaster were living in makeshift housing there.

Reports from the Centre for Volcano Studies in Manizales, where a group of 51 Colombian and foreign scientists are monitoring the Nevado Del Ruiz, said there had been increased seismic activity in the volcano.

People living along rivers born on the 5,400-metre (16,200-foot) volcano have been advised to stay in contact with authorities and be on alert.

Pretoria denies moves to release Mandela

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — The government has denied making contact with an outlawed guerrilla movement or considering the release of its jailed leader, Nelson Mandela.

Louis Nel, deputy minister of information, said Monday night that press reports of such moves were the work of "ruthless propaganda experts from behind the iron curtain."

He said the sources of the news articles wanted to portray South Africa as enfeebled by persistent black unrest and therefore forced to make concessions to the African National Congress (ANC) guerrilla group.

"The ANC is completely committed to violence and conducts a reign of terror against moderate black South African citizens in order to make South Africa supposedly ungovernable," Mr. Nel said in a statement.

The news reports were "a transparent attempt to create the impression this situation has been reached, which is of course laughable," he added.

Speculation that Mandela was about to be released reached fever pitch last week because of his three-week stay in a Cape Town

hospital, long after his complete recovery from prostate gland surgery. On Saturday, Mandela was returned to Pollsmoor Prison, where he is serving a life sentence for a conviction on charges of plotting sabotage.

But newspapers here and abroad continued to suggest over the weekend and on Monday that government contacts with the ANC were under way or envisioned, with a view to releasing Mandela either in South Africa or sending him into exile.

The Johannesburg Star, quoting sources in Lusaka, Zambia, site of the ANC's southern Africa headquarters, said the government had decided to release Mandela and all other political prisoners when it could work out the mechanics.

The government "has sent clear, direct signals to the African National Congress during the past fortnight that it cannot solve the serious crisis confronting the country alone," the Star said.

The London Observer, in a dispatch from its Johannesburg correspondent, Allister Sparks, said Sunday that serious negotiations have begun on Mandela's release and it is likely he will be freed.

Hayden calls for reforms in Philippines

CANBERRA (R) — The Australian government Tuesday called on the Philippines to make urgent political, economic and military reforms and said Communist insurgency was a serious threat.

Foreign Minister Bill Hayden told parliament that the government of President Ferdinand Marcos faced "severe economic dislocation and widespread and understandable dissatisfaction" with its political and economic record.

Australia had made a substantial commitment to the Philippines in terms of aid and it "will continue to engage our active attention," Mr. Hayden said.

"It is a member of our immediate region, of considerable importance to us for various strategic foreign policy and economic reasons," Mr. Hayden added.

Mr. Hayden said Australia hoped the Philippines would be able, through broad and urgent political, economic and military reform, to meet the legitimate aspirations of its people.

"It is gratifying that the United States and other countries are also urging reform on the Philippines government," he said.

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Ugandan troops, NRA fight over key bridge

KAMPALA (R) — Ugandan government forces and rebel troops have fought a fierce battle over the strategic Katonga Bridge on a road linking Kampala with the guerrilla-held south west, a government army official said.

The official, who saw the battle, said 120 National Resistance Army (NRA) rebels had been killed and 80 had surrendered.

He did not disclose government losses and it was not known whether government troops had recaptured the bridge, 100 kilometres south west of Kampala which the NRA have held for several weeks.

Government troops have made several attempts to recapture the bridge to reopen the road to the south west.

The fighting took place as peace talks were expected to resume in Nairobi after a two-week lull.

Both sides have expressed optimism that a ceasefire agreement will be signed soon.

Soviet troops redeploy around Kabul

ISLAMABAD (R) — Soviet forces redeployed from the Panjshir Valley have staged security sweeps around Kabul before the full onset of winter. Western diplomats said Tuesday.

The attacks centered on Logar and Wardak provinces, two southern routes for rebels coming in to attack Kabul, as well as on the Faghman, and Shomali valleys north of the capital, the diplomats said here.

Large convoys of troops, tanks and armoured cars passed through Kabul last week and over two dozen helicopters believed to have been bombing the Panjshir also returned to the capital, the diplomats said.

A smaller force stayed in the snowy valley north of Kabul. More than 350 vehicles left for Wardak on Nov. 19 in the largest Soviet convoy seen in Kabul for years, they added.

The diplomats, quoting reports from Kabul, also relayed confused information about four helicopters said to have been shot down near Kandahar in southern Afghanistan on Nov. 13.

One report said an Afghan general may have been captured and executed, while another spoke of two Afghan and two Soviet generals killed by rebels. They could

not be independently confirmed. The diplomats said the sweeps around Kabul began on Nov. 10 with Soviet troops mining roads in villages close to the capital.

On Nov. 15 and 16, troops were shuttled by helicopter from Kabul to Maidanshahr in Wardak province to attack rebel routes there.

The 350-vehicle convoy, towing many long-range field artillery guns, also headed for Maidanshahr.

On Nov. 17, between 30 and 40 tanks left Kabul northbound for the Shomali Valley, where troops are clearing 40-metre strips along the main highway to rob guerrillas of hiding places for ambushes, the diplomats said.

They said that four days later, ground and air forces began a three-day sweep through Faghman, a partially-deserted valley north west of Kabul rebels often used as a springboard for attacks on the capital.

According to guerrilla sources in Peshawar, Soviet and Afghan troops also launched a ground attack near Ghazni in the south east on Nov. 20 and set up three military posts in formerly rebel-held areas. Fighting was still going on, they said.

The diplomats said Soviet troops had reinforced their positions

on the floor of the Panjshir Valley but left the snow-covered upper half to the rebels.

Guerrillas shot down an enemy airplane over the valley on Nov. 15, they said without giving further details.

The diplomats reported Kabul was calm last week except for a few loud blasts. Bombs went off near the Ministry of Communications, near the airport and close to the main Soviet base at Khairkhana north of the city.

One rebel rocket fired at Kabul airport on Nov. 16 slightly damaged a Boeing 727 belonging to Afghanistan's Bakhtar Airlines, the diplomats said.

Eight people have been found murdered in Kabul over the past two weeks in what some sources believed were political rivalries between the competing Khalq and Parcham factions of the Communist Party.

The Salang Pass, the highest over the Hindu Kush Mountains between Kabul and the Soviet Union, was closed for five days in mid-November after rebels blew up an Afghan fuel convoy there.

The Jamiat-i-Islami Party said in Peshawar last week its rebels destroyed 27 fuel tankers in the attack. Ten Soviet soldiers who came to put out the fire died when one exploded in a fireball.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1 — East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ K852 ♣ QJ1093 ♦ Q73 ♠ 5
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Dbl. Pass ?
What action do you take?

Q.2 — East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ AQ ♣ KQJ83 ♦ A987 ♠ 85
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ 2 ♠ 2 NT Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q.3 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ 6 ♣ AK1032 ♦ KJ3 ♠ KQ83
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass 1 NT Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q.4 — As South, vulnerable, you

hold:
♠ Q853 ♣ K72 ♦ AKJ783
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q.5 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ A5 ♣ AQKJ73 ♦ 1092 ♠ 85
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ 1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ ?
What do you bid now?

Q.6 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ QJ3 ♣ 984 ♦ A85 ♠ K1092
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass Dbl. ?
What action do you take?